

Q7 - 35

NOVEMBER, 1958

No. 11



PROCLAMATION

GREETING

agf/bk8.
A/ Attorney General

WHEREAS as it is felt that an over-all campaign across the five provinces will be more effective in focusing farmers' attention on the work of the Farm Unions, the Unions have requested the Premiers of the respective provinces to designate the week of November 2nd to 8th, 1958, as National Farm Union Week.

IN TESTIMONY WHERE We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of Our Province of Alberta to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS: The Honourable John James Bowen, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of Alberta, in Our City of Edmonton, in Our Province of Alberta, this 3rd day of September, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fifty-eight, and in the Seventh year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND:

Agatha B.
Provincial Secretary

D.P.S.

GENERAL SCIENCES

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1958



U.G.G. Control Rests With Its Members

Early in November over 300 delegates representing more than 50,000 farmer members will assemble at Calgary to attend the fifty-second Annual Meeting of UNITED GRAIN GROWERS LIMITED.

- At Calgary delegates will review the Company's operations for the past year . . . elect new directors, and decide on policies to be followed for the current season.
- Since the formation of this farmers' co-operative in 1906 affairs of the U.G.G. have been conducted in this manner. For farmers own the U.G.G. . . . and farmers control its operations!
- Each U.G.G. member is attached to one of the 312 local societies into which the membership is grouped. Members elect their own Local Boards which serve as advisory bodies to assist the Company and promote its interests.
- Each local elects its own delegate to attend the Annual Meeting of the Company held alternately at Winnipeg and Calgary.
- Delegates' expenses are paid by the Company to ensure full representation of the membership. No other co-operative brings together so large a number of delegates — in proportion to membership — to direct and control Company operations in the interest of farmers.

ANY FARMER WHO DELIVERS GRAIN TO A U.G.G. ELEVATOR MAY BECOME A U.G.G. MEMBER BY PURCHASE OF A "CLASS B" VOTING SHARE AT A COST OF \$5.00.

United Grain Growers Ltd.

"SERVING WESTERN FARMERS SINCE 1906"

President's Report

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**We must face  
these problems  
F. U. A.  
is the way.**

~~~~~

During the month I have been over a good deal of the province and will be over the rest of it during the next few weeks. My own observations, and that of others that have been on the road have me worried. Not everyone I talked to, but far too many say, in effect, Farmers' Union is doing fine, keep up the good work, we are all behind you, but I am pretty busy myself and haven't time to canvass or to hold office or to go to meetings but I'll pay my fees when the canvasser calls. What canvasser? Neither head office or your director has any magic way of getting canvassers out of a hat.

There is only one kind of support that I understand and that's work. Words are nice but they don't get things done. May I, in this last issue before the Drive, appeal with the utmost sincerity that I can that you get out and work and work just as hard as you know. That, and only that, will assure the success of the drive. Let's not kid ourselves — George can't be depended on to do it. To all officials I redouble my appeal. Give leadership — that is what you were elected for. Leadership means getting in front and doing more than the rest.

I am being so emphatic about this because I know the family farm is being seriously threatened by vertical integration. I know that the cost-price squeeze won't disappear by itself. I know that we are facing an immediate fight to retain the Crow's Nest Pass freight agreement. These are facts, unpleasant facts that we ignore at our peril.

I don't know whether we can save the family farm and bring parity to agriculture because I don't know whether farm people

The Organized Farmer

Editor A. W. PLATT
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EDITORIALS

Who's Backward?

In the province of Quebec Marketing Board legislation requires that 75% of the producers eligible to market under a Board be required to vote for it before it is enacted into law. This is the most severe legislation of its kind in Canada. This legislation was passed in February 1956. Since that time Quebec farmers have set up 25 producer-controlled Marketing Boards, with the votes ranging from 79.6% to 98% of the producers in favor.

Compare this record with that of the forward-looking farmers in western Canada. Maybe full stomachs and empty heads go together.

will move quickly enough and stay together long enough to accomplish these aims. I think they will, and if they do we will win. I do know that we need all the help, all the ideas and all the dollars we can get and we need them right now. Time is not on our side. I have said that no one is going to push Alberta farmers around. Well, are they or are they not? That is up to you.

Said one inebriated gent to the other,
as they walked down the railroad tracks:

"These stairs are killing me!"

Said the other drunk: "Ain't the
stairs — it's these low bannisters!"

Why a Farm Union

The purpose of any organization is to do collectively what we can't do individually. The Farm Union is no exception.

In addition to all the many varied and important local projects that were undertaken last year your organization engaged in the following activities:

1. Attempted to persuade provincial and federal governments to pass legislation beneficial to farmers, and not pass legislation detrimental to them.

2. Presented Briefs to various Royal Commissions and Enquiries.

3. Presented the farmers' case on Freight Rates, Seaway Tolls and grain handling charges.

4. Engaged in self-help projects.

5. Served on various advisory committees to government.

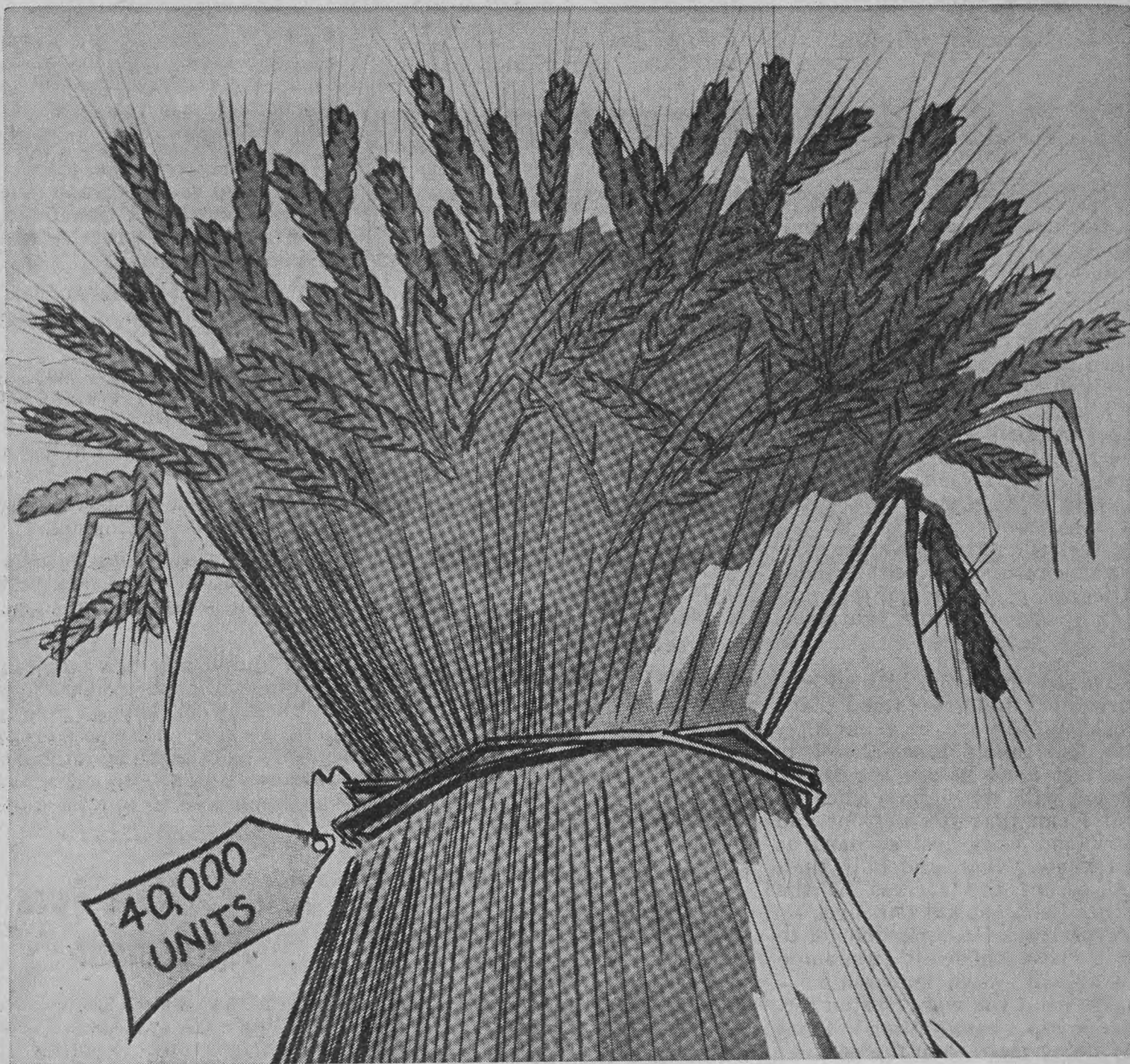
6. Co-operated with farmers in other countries for peace in the world and prosperity for agriculture.

We didn't win all our cases. We did win a lot. You won't win any next year unless you are there. Be sure your elected representatives are there by joining the Farmers' Union. Do more. Get your neighbors to join as well.

Crow's Nest Pass Agreement

It is now evident that the Canadian Railways and their friends are nearly ready to bring the the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement before the Canadian Parliament. The softening up process has been going on for some years with a high degree of success. The recent freight rate hikes that have been asked for have made the general public conscious of the railway problem, and everyone has said that something has to be done about it. The railways have the answer — abolish the statutory grain rates. Farmers of the prairie should be prepared for a fight to the finish at any time — maybe at the next session of parliament.

ALL JOIN HANDS



To Unite All Farm Families

Do Your Part

SIGN-UP F.U.A. MEMBERS

F.U.A. Annual Convention December 8-12

The annual convention of the Farmers' Union of Alberta will be held in Edmonton, December 8th to 12th inclusive at the Macdonald Hotel. Representation is based on the number of paid-up members in a local. Locals are allowed one delegate for each 20 members or major portion thereof, with each local having six paid up members being entitled to one delegate. Visitors will be welcome but only delegates are given voting privileges.

Delegates will participate in the pool transportation fund, with the pool rate set at \$12.00 which means all delegates will pay a total of \$12.00 into the pool regardless of what distance they may be from Edmonton.

I want to impress upon all locals the importance of sending delegates to the annual convention. This is the governing body of the union, the place where policy is determined, and where the leaders of the movement are selected. No local can really do its part in the farm movement unless it is represented at the annual convention, so be sure to send your delegates to Edmonton this year.

For speakers we expect Hon. D. Harkness, Minister of Agriculture; Mr. W. C. McNamara, Chief Commissioner of Canadian Wheat Board; Hon. A. J. Hooke, Minister of Municipal Affairs; Dr. Hitschmanova of the Unitarian Services; and a panel discussion on Vertical Integration.

In the F.W.U.A. convention we will have Mr. T. A. Peterson, Farm Management Specialist, Provincial Department of Agriculture, Mrs. C. F. Bentley and Dr. Nancy Adams, Area Vice-President of the A.C.W.W.

**F.U.A.
Membership
Campaign
is
ON!
Give it a boost.**

A Look At The Grain Situation

The \$1.00 per acre as announced by Prime Minister Diefenbaker is indeed welcome to our farm people. While it bears no relation to grain marketed all farmers will be able to put it to good use.

By this type of assistance to help agriculture the Government has deviated from their policy of stabilization of farm prices and that of parity prices.

Farm products all across the board must have the same protection to prevent surpluses accumulating in certain products. If there must be a surplus, let us have it in the least perishable and easiest stored product. Also, let us have each farmer produce what his land is best suited for.

Because the price received for grain is so very out of proportion with farm costs — especially oats, and because unmanageable surpluses will accrue in meat and other products, prices will fall to the point where Government must pay perhaps more on stabilization of products than the deficiency payments on grain would have cost at the start. It could pose a problem that may be more difficult than the original one, not including the hardship the farmers are sustaining.

Much of our oats export goes to the U.S. and it could be argued that the American farmers are competing with subsidized agriculture on this side of the border. Some trade practices by the American government are not considered very saintly to state the least. How could a few bushels of oats suddenly become so important in the matter.

The public will consider this as a handout as no doubt it is. It was not considered to be a remedy for the ills of agriculture. Farmers wonder, though, how sincere the Government was when it passed the Stabilization Bill. Should they proceed with some real effort real soon then, of course, all the foregoing is forgiven.

Oscar Hittinger,
Director,
F.U.A. Dist. No. 5,
Morinville, Alberta

Who Subsidized Whom!

There has been much talk in recent weeks on the proposed deficiency payments to farmers.

One daily newspaper of local circulation referred disparagingly to the farmers being in need of a handout.

It is of common knowledge that agriculture throughout the Dominion is in a depressed condition. Much of our produce must be freighted, at our expense, across a continent and an ocean and then must compete with subsidized agriculture of other lands.

On the other hand, the Canadian manufacturer of say, "paper napkins" is protected from competition from Great Britain by a tariff of 17 per cent; from Commonwealth countries by a tariff of 22½ per cent; and from the rest of the world by a tariff of 35 per cent.

The manufacturer of synthetic textile clothing rests safe behind tariff walls of 20 per cent, 27 per cent from most favored countries and 50 per cent plus a 7 cent per ounce tax from the rest of the world.

The Canadian consumer is subsidized by agriculture in that food, in relation to money earned, is cheaper in Canada than anywhere else on earth. Small wonder that the Canadian farmers feel justified when they say "we are just deficiency payments."

Thank you Mr. Editor, for your valuable space.

Ralph A. Wilson,
Director,
F.U.A. Dist. No. 7.

**VOLUNTEER
TO CANVASS
FOR F.U.A.**

What Happened Here?

* * *

The Egg Marketing Plebiscite

Ontario farmers have asked for three Marketing Boards this summer. They asserted their confidence in the continuance of their Hog Marketing Board which already functioned for some two years or so. They voted for a Producer Board to handle grain and another to market peaches.

In Alberta the Producer Egg Marketing plan was defeated.

The editor of the Edmonton Journal praised the egg producers on their decision. Previous to and during the enumeration and plebiscite he wrote in his column, periodically, how a farmers marketing board was not good for farmers. While he did not have any real arguments of course, results showed that his efforts were not in vain. The paper goes out to some 1/4 million people, and people have the habit of believing it because it is printed.

Egg producers were no exception and the sad part is that they did not endeavor to learn the facts. As far as the editor having eggs to market is concerned he couldn't care less. It was a case of freedom of the press being exploited. Finance, not conscience, is his and his employer's guide. He knows that all industries put a price on their products. Imagine Chrysler Corporation not concerned with the price they sell their cars!

The editor some time ago wrote in his column that Canadian newspapers should get their newsprint cheaper than the American firms do because it is produced here. He wanted the protection. Quite an about turn.

If his remarks on farm subjects is an indication of his accuracy in writing on other subjects he is wasting paper and ink. No wonder he thinks they should get newsprint at a lower cost. He should be more efficient and rational.

Oscar Hittinger,
F.U.A. Dist. No. 5,
Director,
Morinville, Alberta

Alberta Premiere

* * *

Edmonton Show Features Carcass Judging

One of the outstanding features of the Edmonton Fall Show and Sale is the sheep and swine carcass competition.

Entry of live animals is made for these competitions. All the animals are brought out into the judging ring and judged on the hoof by the exhibitors at the show. The animals are then tagged and tattooed and sent to the packing plant to be slaughtered.

After the carcasses are properly chilled they are returned to the Exhibition Grounds for display. All the swine carcasses are graded at the packing plant. The lamb carcasses are graded and judged at the pavilion.

Now a complete comparison is made between the placings by the exhibitors and the actual placings according to plant grade. The exhibitors doing the best job in this regard share \$42.00 in prize money and the exhibitors who entered the animals for the competition share \$139.00 in prize money.

On Wednesday evening October 29th a meat show and carcass auction is held in the pavilion. The admission is free and the public is welcome. Tickets are provided those attending which makes them eligible for a draw. The Alberta Sheep and Swine Breeders' Associations provide a sheep and swine carcass which are wrapped and ready for a deep freeze. This is a straight give-away and ticket stubs are drawn and the lucky winners take home free anything from a picnic shoulder to a leg of lamb.

Meat experts go over the carcasses hanging on display and give an educational talk on quality and reasons for various grades. Then the auctioneers sell the 19 swine and 8 lamb carcasses to those in attendance.

This is a wonderful opportunity for any citizen to come to this sale and obtain a carcass or half carcass of lamb or pork for their freezers. At the same time they have the opportunity of gaining some real useful pointers regarding buys and cuts of meat from the experts.

Be sure to attend this show on Wednesday, October 29th at 8 p.m. You won't regret it!

Agriculture Loses A Champion

by Henry Young

In the death of Jack Sutherland, Western Agriculture has lost one of its greatest champions. He was a man of a type all too rare anytime. An unselfish man, with a great capacity for public service and always unswervingly loyal to his fellow farmers.

I have known Jack for almost 40 years. During that whole long period, he devoted himself to the cause of getting a fair deal for Canadian Agriculture. In this cause he spent his time and money, often to his own detriment. In all branches of our farm movement he played a large part.

First in the U.F.A. which he helped to build to the height of its success in 1921. Then in the Wheat Pool and other Co-ops where he played a large part, and more lately in the F.U.A.

In the course of his career, positions of many kinds were open to Jack. But he had no desire for place or power. Some positions he had to fill, but he always preferred to work in the ranks and let others have the limelight. It was characteristic of the man that he would not accept a position, if there was another suitable person available. At one time he could have been President of the U.F.A. or perhaps an M.L.A. but he turned such chances down.

On the personal side, Jack was a man of charm and culture, loyal and considerate to his friends, and with a keen sense of humor. Handicapped for many years with poor eyesight and plagued by a long series of crop failures, he never gave up and was always cheerful. A keen student of economics, he had deep convictions, but he never forced them upon anyone. However, he could see through political sham and humbug quite easily. Consequently, he was never too popular with the politicians of the day.

It can be truly said, that Jack was a man of many parts. He was a good farmer, a good family man and a consistent fighter for the rights of Agriculture. His place will be hard to fill. The very best memorial we could set up to him would not be stone or marble, but the militant farm union which he spent his life to build.

Alberta Livestock Co-operative Limited

DEAR FRIENDS:

As long as there's production and feeding of livestock, marketing will be of paramount importance. We've mentioned it so often and to such an extent that you must think that we're nuts about the subject and to be perfectly candid, we are. We've been hired to do a marketing job directly by the farmer and for the farmer, on that basis we've simply got to try to get you on our side if you're not already there.

There's more to marketing than just the disposition of livestock from day to day and from week to week. As an instance at the present time, and we mentioned this last month, prospective increased production of hogs have made hog buyers careful not to put away any surplus pork and because of that they've been quite bearish in their price ideas. There's no doubt that we are in a period of increased production inasmuch as slaughter figures for the year to date show that to the middle of September Alberta slaughter is up 20 per cent, the Western provinces in total are up 20.2 per cent. While Ontario is down 1 per cent, Quebec and the Maritimes are up about 16 and 12 per cent respectively.

Now we're fairly well convinced that we can absorb this increase without getting down to 'support' levels, at least for the balance of this year, and we hope we're right. In the meantime U.S. production will be a major factor affecting our position.

However to get back to the marketing picture, part of our job, we think, is to keep in touch with anything that might affect prices and disposition and naturally "supports" are part of the picture.

The formula for hog supports was announced as being 80 per cent of the average of the previous 10 years. However actual prices were announced as being \$21.50 for "A" grade hogs for Alberta effective on the Calgary and Edmonton public markets. If our figures are right that's only 77% of the 10-year average while the Toronto floor of \$25.00 is close to 84% of the 10-year average. Looking into matters of this kind is part of our marketing job and to do something about it is part of the job of farm organizations such as the Alberta Federation of Agriculture, the Farmers Union and the Co-operative Associations who are directly concerned with organized marketing. Just keep in mind however that without organization little or nothing can be done and that fact should be emphasized and re-emphasized whenever you meet and talk with anyone who does not appear to be particularly interested in organization but who does obtain every benefit of organization without being part of it.

We're handicapped in a program of that kind. We've got our daily work to do, we can be in only one place at one time and there's a limit as to what we can do concerning public relations work. But F.U.A. locals are spread widely through this province, co-operative associations operate in all major producing areas. It seems to us that a lot of effective missionary work can be done in every district by the many individuals connected with our many farm organizations. If you'll keep harping on these matters until you're as tiresome as we are perhaps you can break down many of these 'doubting Thomases'. What do you think?

ALBERTA LIVESTOCK CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED

G. WINKELAAR, Manager.



F.W.U.A. Section

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Mrs. C. T. Armstrong

Membership Drive

At the time of writing this article I am in District 12 to bring first-hand information and help to all those who are key people in our membership drive. I am happy to say that I find a sincere desire among these people to work for our F.U.A. and I am sure good results can be expected. District 10 have some real plans in launching the drive and I hope to say more about this later as well as other programs in District 7 and elsewhere. While it keeps me busy I enjoy helping where there seems to be something done to help our farm people, especially where they realize it is necessary to try and help themselves. I am sure we have men, women and juniors who will team up in all districts to make this drive a real success.

Safety Council

Mrs. Braithwaite and I attended a Safety Council directors' meeting in Red Deer. It was the first time that women had been invited and we were pleased to represent the F.W.U.A. along with other women from other organizations. Guest speaker was Basil Dean, publisher of the Calgary Herald, who spoke on "Our driving laws should be tougher." Mrs. Betts, the secretary, outlined the Carol Land awards to the meeting and Mrs. Braithwaite is writing an article which you will find in this issue in this regard. Perhaps our members could contribute some good ideas on safety and win a prize.

Convention Program

Your executive met and have outlined the convention program which we think will be interesting. We hope the locals will be working toward sending their quota of delegates to Edmonton. The 1959 F.W.U.A. Program for use in the locals has been planned and is now at the printers. The conveners' reports are coming in and things are in motion ready for a good convention.

F.W.U.A. HI-LIGHTS

Red Deer Lake FWUA #1216 (Calgary) made a nice donation to the grade IX student with the highest standing — Constance Ruby Mulder.

* * *

East Longview FWUA #1211 had their Questionnaire on Education filled out by a member, Mrs. Vern Wight, and feel the answers showed "much thought and study." Profit from food provided at a sale in the district amounted to \$80.00. A donation was made to C.N.I.B.

* * *

Imperial FWUA #621 (Vegreville) for roll call next meeting will have each member donate some canned article — fruit, vegetables, or pickles.

* * *

Heath FWUA #703 (Wainwright) are discussing the handicraft list to make choices of articles for convention. As the former Sunnyvale UFWA is now disbanded the minutes of the local are to be sent to the archives committee.

* * *

Sydenham-Gerald #710 (Wainwright) answered roll call with "an unforgettable character". Marylyn Nicholson reported on F.Y.P.W. and on the lovely time she had there.

* * *

Wild Rose FWUA #1108, (Carolside), are sending old woollens to be made up into blankets, the premiums to be sold at the fall bazaar.

* * *

Westlock FWUA #308 report a well attended meeting and all were interested in getting exhibits ready for handicraft at the convention. A donation was made to mental health, and each member is to bring a gift for a box for mental health patients. As the fair was not as good as usual plans are underway for improving it. A special prize may be offered of \$10.00 for best group exhibit. A good and interesting meeting.

* * *

Warner FWUA #1402 have decided to donate to muscular dystrophy, retarded children, and cerebral palsy. They will also canvass the district for mental health donations.

* * *

Jenny Lind FWUA #1305 (Scandia) will be canvassing the district for contributions to C.N.I.B. As the junior FUA in this district is inactive the funds were turned over to FWUA to be used as seen fit for benefit of young people. These funds will be used for a scholarship for a grade IX student of the district, donating \$10 a year over a period of four years. The afghan raffle has been postponed till next spring, and the afghan will be sent as an exhibit to the handicrafts at the convention.

Hazel Bluff FWUA #305 (Westlock) hope to have a raffle for the chair they made for the Barrhead convention, at a pie social later on. Some discussion was held on the matter of civil defense.

* * *

Spruceville FWUA #912 (Lacombe) hope to inaugurate a scholarship fund for some deserving student in Lacombe School Division each year. Letter of thanks received from boy the local sent to F.Y.P.W.

* * *

Hillside FWUA #906 (Millet) enjoyed the return of their secretary, Mrs. Jeane Thompson from a two month trip to Great Britain. Roll call was answered with "An unforgettable character". Plans are being made for raising funds for Canadian Mental Health Association. Letter from FWUA pen pal in New Zealand was read; she gave a very complete picture of her life as the wife of a New Zealand farmer.

* * *

Three Hills FWUA #1018 took in \$50.56 at the tea held in conjunction with the flower show in August.

* * *

Pollackville FWUA #1106 have made nice donations to C.N.I.B. and Save The Children Fund. More plans were made for annual bazaar and dance to be held soon.

* * *

Feedom-Naples FWUA #310 opened with a quotation from Helen Keller. Roll call was answered with "An unforgettable character." Reports were heard on proceeds from booth at stock show in Barrhead; also on flower show and tea held in August. Hospital committee reported ice cream served to 36 patients. It is hoped to create more interest at the meetings by having one member a month prepare a talk on a chosen subject of common interest.

* * *

Gleichen FWUA #1010 held a well attended picnic in August. A quilt is to be quilted for a raffle. A gift was sent to adopted mental patient at Ponoka. Donation made to CMHA. The Arrowwood local was entertained at a lawn party — games, etc. were played and lunch served. Mrs. Braithwaite and Mrs. Barker were also guests and each gave a short talk.

* * *

Roseleaf FWUA #1023 (Sylvan Lake) had a good attendance in spite of harvesting. The local is a busy one.

* * *

Beaverlodge FWUA #107 had a very successful meeting, after a summer month's recess. A donation was made Mental Health Association. It was decided that each member should bring any clothing, food, household articles, etc. to the next meeting — to be given

to the Gray's Orphanage in Dimsdale. A box of toys will be donated and given to a needy family in the district for Christmas.

* * *

High Prairie FWUA #204 are holding a tea and bake sale to aid CMHA. A cheque for 25c a member for the 19 members of this local was received at central office, for ACWW delegate fund.

* * *

Pelican FWUA #707 (Edgerton) held discussions on civil defense, FUA organization, scrapbook material. Also plans for a number of activities—for raising money and for instruction—planned. A quilt is being made for a former member who now lives in town.

* * *

Hussar Jubilee FWUA #1310 heard an interesting talk on the difference in freezers and frozen foods, by Mrs. Grey, dist. home economist. Mrs. Armstrong, president of FWUA, explained World Health Organization to the members.

* * *

Marwayne FWUA #716 are planning a collection of good used clothing to be sent to the John Howard Society. Doris Tupper reported on Farm Women's Week, with special emphasis on Water Safety, and she gave a demonstration on artificial respiration on a drowning person.

* * *

Dimsdale FWUA #104 held a very well attended meeting, the first in three months due to holidays and early harvest. This is a new local and has been very active—sponsoring a successful bake sale, catering to a wedding dance, helping with the local recreational club and FUA in sponsoring community children's picnic, and holding a fowl supper which turned out very well in spite of a steady rainfall—with over 200 being fed—altogether a most successful and remunerative event.

* * *

CAMROSE FWUA LADIES ENJOY TRIP

Ten members of the Camrose FWUA local #801 journeyed to Edmonton on Friday, October 3rd, where they were joined by four friends, to spend the day touring places of interest.

They went through the Jubilee Auditorium and the School for the Deaf before going to the Viking Smorgasbord for a lovely lunch. Then visited the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, the Parliament Buildings and the F.U.A. office. Coffee was served to the ladies by the F.U.A. staff.

Each year this local plans some trip together and find that it always turns out to be a "Red Letter Day." It is an idea for other locals.

**GUARANTEED *
TO HOLD FIRE
ALL NIGHT!**

yet

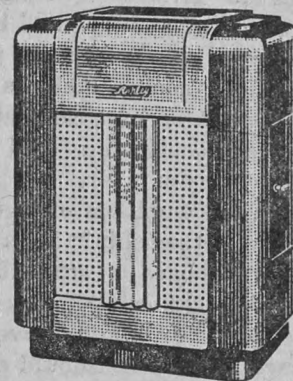
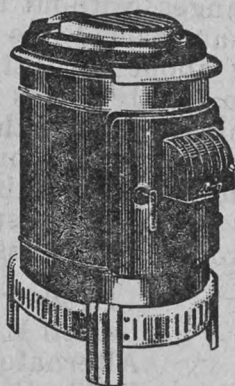
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ASHLEY AUTOMATIC WOOD STOVE CO. Inc.
COLUMBIA, S.C.

HOLDS FIRE ALL NIGHT

What Are Your Views On Secondary Education

May I say as an introduction to this short article that it is generally agreed that, in Alberta, we want the best possible educational opportunity for every boy or girl in the province, whether living on the farm or in the city; whether average, below average or gifted, whether technically, vocationally or academically inclined and whether his parents' income is large or small. This will mean evolving the best possible system of education and then implementing it in all areas. This, while retaining the same high quality, may necessitate one form in urban centres and something different in rural areas.

Rural parents may be faced with some very important decisions. First, are they satisfied with the limited type of high school instruction available within their immediate area? If so, there is no problem. If not, are they prepared to make some sacrifice to give their children greater opportunities? Should small high schools continue to give a general program with perhaps some emphasis on practical rather than theoretical mathematics; more emphasis and drill on competence in grammar, spelling, letter writing; more emphasis on everyday problems of citizenship? Such an education could prepare a student to enter vocational, technical, business or agricultural colleges or might serve as terminal courses for others. Should each division or county provide one high school with somewhat similar program to the present one but with the emphasis on academic work — more theoretical mathematics, more concentrated courses in English, more content in Social Studies and possibly more academic electives? Should these schools include a high standard of Business Education which would be much more than courses in typing and bookkeeping and have appeal for boys as well as girls? Should both local and divisional high schools provide shop and home economics courses? Should each Region (4 to 6 divisions or counties) have a community college offering technical, vocational and agricultural courses in great variety? Should all students have the privilege of attending the school of their choice without extra expenditure? Should students attend regional schools by double-bussing (what length of time should be considered maximum) or should specially constructed, strictly supervised dormitories be the answer?

WHAT ARE THE FACTS?

TOWARDS ADEQUATE RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL POLICY IN CANADA

by D. W. Carr

The reprint from the Canadian Journal of Agriculture Economic points out the need for analyzing the facts and statistics to form a policy that will put agriculture on a more equal footing and avoid being unable to see the forest for the trees.

The change in agricultural practice has had much research leading to greater productivity, but we have done little on policy because of political or monetary deficiencies. Canada differs from other countries because of a difference in agriculture and population. Even the U.S. policy is not apparently working too well and shows a need for changes.

How are we going to know what changes, without unslanted research and facts? Are we going to argue about the little things while the family farms turn into an assembly line with the last independent calling gone to a chain, and end up working longer hours as a manager, subject to the stock-holders' whims?

Submitted by
Cecil E. Keast,
Alternate director
F.U.A. Dist. No. 8.

Should such be provided without extra cost to the parents? Should this principle apply to community colleges so that expense would prevent no student from attending?

These are some of the problems. There are no easy answers. Comments and suggestions from parents in rural areas will be most welcome.

Ivy Taylor, Member,
Alberta Royal Commission
on Education.
(Mrs. W. C. Taylor,
Box 99, Wainwright, Alta.)

Try a mixture of turpentine and ammonia for hard dry paint spots on clothing; soak a while then wash out the turps with warm sudsy water.



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REPORT ON SAFETY CONFERENCE

by Mrs. C. R. Braithwaite

The tenth mid-term meeting of the Alberta Safety Council was held in the Holiday Inn at Red Deer, with a good turnout of directors, guest and other interested people.

President A. J. Dixon, M.L.A., welcomed those attending and gave a report of the activities of the Safety Council for the past six months, which showed that many interested people were devoting time and money to help make Albertans safety conscious.

Paul Lawrence, manager, reported that a budget of \$50,000 had been set up for the year of 1958 and at the end of six months they had spent \$25,000.

The meeting then divided and went into various committees to discuss Traffic Safety, Farm Safety, Water Safety, Child Safety.

At the luncheon hour each lady present was introduced, stated what position she held in the organization she represented, and was presented with a beautiful corsage.

Later on we were told it was hoped that women would take a director's position on the Provincial Safety Council, thus adding strength and bringing in various women's groups to work for greater safety measures in homes, in-

dustry, traffic, farms. The toll of accidents and higher insurance rate indicate the enormous amount of work necessary to see that safety rules are made and obeyed.

Mr. Basil Dean, publisher of the Calgary Herald, guest speaker at the luncheon, spoke on "Our Traffic Laws Should be Tougher."

A panel discussion on "Industrial Safety and Its Relation to Public Safety" was very interesting. Those taking part were — Moderator, J. W. Pace, Div. Safety Supervisor, Imperial Oil Limited Producing Department; on the panel were Geo. Austin, from Shell Oil; W. E. Sutton, Factories Branch, Dept. of Industries & Labor, Government of Alberta; and S. R. Walker, Safety Supervisor of Sherritt Gordon Mines.

The Carol Lane Safety Awards were created to recognize, foster and reward women's achievement towards the preservation of lives through traffic safety programs in the community, province or nation. They are administered by the Canadian Highway Safety Conference through a grant from Shell Oil Company of Canada, Limited.

These awards will be presented each year at the annual spring meeting of the Canadian Highway Safety Conference. They will be given to three wom-

en's organizations, women's divisions of school associations, or any similar volunteer group, which have developed and directed the most effective traffic safety during the previous year. First prize is \$1,000 Savings Bond and a bronze statuette; second prize \$500.00 and a plaque; and third prize is \$250.00 and a plaque.

I sincerely hope our F.W.U.A. locals that have been interested and contributed to Safety over the years will take note of this and enter for next year.

The Pedal Pusher Program under Roy Munroe at Calgary was very successful — 5000 children were given instruction on how to keep their bikes in good repair and safety rules of the road.

Hon. R. D. Jorgensen, Minister of Welfare, reported on the Farm Safety Essay Contest. This contest is open to rural schools, correspondence schools and Indian residential schools. Last year 36,403 pupils entered the contest, the winners being all girls. The prizes for this contest are two first prizes of \$50.00 each and two second prizes of \$25.00 each.

The fact brought out at this meeting was that the individual must think safety before he can act safely. The safety programs in industry are having good results, because figures prove there are more accidents elsewhere than in industry.



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Master Farmers Named

Winners of three Master Farm Family Awards for this year have been chosen by the provincial government.

Winners of the 1958 award are:

J. McCulloch family of Didsbury.

M. Wood family of Tofield.

A. Jasperson family of Stony Plain.

Each family will receive an award of \$1,000 and a Master Farm Family plaque for the farm gate.

Congratulations to these families.

U.S. WHEAT SITUATION

The record large 1958 wheat crop of 1,421 million bushels, 50 per cent above the 1947-56 average, reflects principally the record high yield of 25.4 bushels per seeded acre. Other contributing factors include the smallest acreage abandonment in 20 years and a substantial increase in total acreage over 1957, almost all in winter wheat. This increase in acreage reflects less wheat land having been put in the Soil Bank Acreage Reserve Program.

Total wheat supplies for the marketing year which began July 1, 1958, are estimated at 2,312 million bushels. They exceed the previous peak in 1956-57 by 267 million bushels or 13 per cent and 1957-58 by 24 per cent. A 50 per cent larger crop indicated for 1958 much more than offsets a slightly smaller carryover.

The national average support price to producers for 1958-59 crop wheat was announced on July 1 at \$1.82 per bushel four cents per bushel above the "advance" minimum price announced in April 1957. The national average support for the 1957-58 crop was \$2.00 per bushel.

—Spot News From Abroad.

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WHEAT POOL BURSARY WINNERS



HAROLD KEUSCHNIG



LAWRENCE COPITHORNE

Bursaries worth up to \$2,500 each have been awarded two Alberta farm boys by the Alberta Wheat Pool. Winners are Lawrence Copithorne, of Cochrane, selected from the southern half of the province and Harold Keuschnig, of Mannville, from the north.

The scholarships, two of which are awarded each year, are restricted to farm young people who have shown exceptional scholastic ability and have demonstrated a keen interest in community and school activities. Worth \$500 a year, they are tenable at the University of Alberta in Edmonton and may be renewed, during a student's undergraduate years, for a period of up to five years, providing a high scholastic standing is maintained.

Eighteen-year-old Lawrence Copithorne took his early schooling in a one-room country school and his high school at Mount Royal College in Calgary. In Grade XII he received an average mark of 82.8 per cent. He was active in sports, the school paper, Hi-Y, drama clubs and music and has been a member of the Tuxis and Older Boys' parliament of Alberta for five years. He will enroll in agriculture and hopes to obtain his masters degree and then take up a position as an agriculturist with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations or the Colombo Plan, or in the agricultural services of Canada's diplomatic corps. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Copithorne, of Cochrane.

Harold Keuschnig, 17, was raised on a farm in the Mannville district and attended a one-room rural school for two

years before completing his education in Mannville. He graduated with an average of 87 per cent in Grade XII. He has taken an active interest in sports, particularly in hockey, and was a member of the local juvenile team. He plans to take engineering at the University.

In addition to this year's winners, other students attending the University of Alberta this year with the assistance of \$500 Wheat Pool bursaries are: Robert McAuley, Pincher Creek; W. Keith Nicholson, Vegreville; Winnifred Swainson, Red Deer; Stewart Fraser, Clyde; Mary-Duane Gottschlich, Lacombe; and Larry Bilan, Tofield.

U.S. MEAT PRODUCTION FORECAST

Meat production for this year is forecast at 25.9 billion pounds, down four per cent from last year and eight per cent less than the record 1956 output. The reduction is largely in beef and veal, as cattle and calves are being withheld from slaughter for breeding or further feeding. More meat will be produced in 1959, as pork output will be up. However, largest increases are not expected until later years, as a substantial expansion in beef and veal supplies is not likely before 1960 at the earliest.

—Spot News From Abroad.

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LIVESTOCK ENTRIES

PUREBRED SHEEP	70
PUREBRED SWINE	370
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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29th — 7:30 P.M.
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Schools in Hutterite Colonies

by Mrs. C. R. Braithwaite

Over a period of years the Farm Organization has received resolutions re Hutterite Colonies in Alberta. I think too often not enough consideration was given to the background of these people, nor the Government's provision in bringing these people to Canada.

The first Hutterite Colonies came to this country toward the end of the last century. The Canadian Government at that time, at the request of the Hutterites, passed an Order in Council, P.C. 1676 dated August 12, 1899, exempting them from military service. It must be noted that, at the time, the Militia Act granted such an exemption to any inhabitant of Canada of any religious denomination "who from the doctrines of his religion is averse to bearing arms and refuses personal military service."

In addition to exemption from military service, the Hutterites asked for freedom of religion, the right to establish separate schools, freedom from taking oaths, and the right to establish and live together in colonies. In a letter dated October 27, 1899, the Deputy Minister of the Department of the Interior assured the Hutterites that the existing laws gave them the privileges asked for. The Hutterites did not request exemption from any form of taxation, nor was there any suggestion that such exemptions would be granted. As regards education the letter advised that the Hutterites "will also be allowed to establish independent schools for teaching their children if they desire to do so, but they will have to be responsible for their maintenance themselves. The children will not be compelled to attend other schools if their education is properly provided for."

During the First World War there was a general public antagonism towards persons who sought exemption from military service, and this was reflected in Order in Council P.C. 768, dated April 8, 1919, cancelling Order in Council P.C. 1676 as regards members of the Hutterite Brethren who entered Canada as immigrants of the Doukhobor, Hutterite or Mennonite class. This latter order was rescinded in 1922.

The admission of Hutterites to Canada at the present time is governed by the same law applicable to other immigrants. The Immigration Act and regulations presently in force do not specifically refer to any religious group and membership in any sect or religious organization, as such, is not a bar to

admission of immigrants who are unwilling to assume the responsibilities of Canadian Citizenship, including exercise of the franchise and compliance with the school laws of the province in which the immigrants will reside.

Hutterites are quite willing to send their children to a public school operated by a school division or county, but insist that the school must be located within the colony. As long as the school remains with the colony, Hutterites readily accept the teacher assigned to the school, and do not object to the curriculum being taught. After regular school hours, however, religious instruction is given in the school building. Hutterites pay the prevailing rate of school taxation on their property assessment in the municipality in which colonies are located and, by agreement with the school division or county, pay an additional levy for the privilege of having a school within the colony.

Schools in the Hutterite colonies are public schools administered by the board of Trustees in the school division in which they are located, or in a few instances they are private schools, such as the schools in the Ewelme Colony, the Felger Colony and the Hutterville Colony, which receive no support from public funds.

Each Hutterite colony signs an agreement with the school division with regard to their schools and other rate-payers of the division are not asked to bear any of the cost of the school in the colony. A site of at least 3 acres must be provided and fenced, and the school building must be approved by the department of education. A teacher's

residence of at least 3 rooms, with basement, must be built in a suitable place on the school grounds, and no other building is permitted within 150 feet of the school building. The colony provides the fuel and janitor service. The teacher is paid by the division. When the enrollment reaches 40 in number another room must be provided. The minister of education declares the quarter section occupied by the colony buildings to be a hamlet under section 2 (f) (ii) of the School Act.

The minister of education approves the annual levy upon the hamlet as provided for in the school act.

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From coast to coast
all farmers
will be renewing
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1 person	\$ 5.00	1 person	7.00
2 persons	6.50	2 persons (double bed)	8.00
		2 persons (twin beds)	9.50
		3 persons	10.50



Agricultural Education At Kindersley

by J. W. Clarke, Agriculture Instructor,
Kindersley, Saskatchewan

Many farmers across our Prairie Provinces have not had the opportunity to take formal instruction in many of the technical aspects of agriculture. As the present efficiency squeeze tightens, farmers are finding that in order to keep or raise the farm income to a desired level more basic information in many of the sciences as applied to agriculture must be gathered. It is quite possible for farmers to gather this information individually. However to do this a great deal of time must be spent in looking for material that otherwise could be spent in more fruitful study.

The Kindersley School Unit, which is predominantly rural, has hired three qualified agrologists to teach agriculture within the Unit. These teachers do the necessary gathering and analyzing of information and then arrange courses at convenient times for the farmers who are interested.

Areas of particular interest to farmers at Kindersley have been farm mechanics, animal husbandry, field husbandry, soils, horticulture and farm management. Many different types of classes have been given in each of these fields of study. Also, some farm management research has been carried out to provide factual basic material for further study with the farmers of the area. Courses for the ladies include sewing, home nursing, interior decorating, first aid and farm account keeping.

In addition to classroom instruction for established adult farmers the agri-

culture teachers conduct the high school vocational agriculture program as laid down in curriculum Bulletin D of the Saskatchewan Department of Education. High School boys who intend to farm, but cannot leave to attend the school or college of agriculture for vocational training, are still able to acquaint themselves with the fundamentals of agriculture in their own high school.

In this way opportunity for training in our basic industry is made available to every future farmer in the Kindersley School Unit. To date full use has been made of the instructors and facilities provided. The most pressing problem is one of adjusting limited personnel to the many demands from both adult and high school areas.

A great deal of farm business adjustment will have to be made by many farmers in the next few years. The people of Kindersley area, whose livelihood depends to a great extent upon the local farmers, trust that they will quickly make the changes in business practices that our dynamic economy demands. In fact, educational assistance is offered through their own school system. This is done in the belief that farmers who look for and take advantage of educational opportunity will be the ones who will most readily and successfully make the necessary adjustments.

THE PUZZLE

Life is like a jig-saw puzzle. When you look at it — you see a hopeless muddle and the pieces will not fit... You try to get the picture right from every point of view. You think you've got the missing bit, then find it will not do.

You'll never work Life's puzzle out if you are over-wrought. You'll make no sense of it at all if hurried or distraught. But if you take your time to sort the muddle quietly — You'll find it fits together and the picture you will see.

—from Harbours of Happiness.

* * *

NOT SO BAD

Taking all things into account life's really not so bad. Many folks are stony-hearted, bitter, sour and sad — but they are the exceptions. If you look around you'll see — lots of kindness and good humour, love and sympathy.

Do not dwell too much upon the horrors of our times — the madness of this bad old world, its sorrows, sins and crimes. The picture has another side and goodness you will find — if you look with seeing eyes and seek with open mind.

—from Harbours of Happiness.

The Task Confronting Housewives

Harvest time is danger time, warns the Alberta Safety Council. With men out in the fields concerned about getting their crops in on time, rush is common, and often safety is sacrificed for speed. Tense and worried working attitudes may result.

The happy, worry-free individual usually makes a more concentrated, careful harvester. Wives must exert all their efforts at this time to produce harmonious conditions — good meals, cheerfulness, coffee breaks and the removal of annoyances and distractions. Attention paid to these factors will lessen fatigue — one of the major causes of farm accidents. It's a big job for the women.

Perhaps their job is made the harder because in addition they'll have their own busy canning season. Boiling water in large quantities and pre-school children underfoot, no longer supervised by brothers and sisters who are away at school.

Youngsters can't just be shoved outdoors either. They are continually wanting to experience things and so prove active rather than reflective. Their curious, touching hands and attitudes place them in extremely dangerous positions around moving machinery, behind trucks and in out of the way places, where, because of their small size, they are overlooked.

Harvest time is danger time, a period when adults must be aware of safety hazards, and for their own sake and the sake of their children, must be able to effectively cope with them before tragedies occur.

—Alta. Dept of Agric. "Farm Notes"

GO ACTIVE SIGN UP!

Attention Farmers!

FOR SALE

Old brick and frame garage at the rear of the Farmers' Union Building in Edmonton. Building and contents to be removed as soon as possible. Offers will be received up to November 17th, 1958.

For particulars apply to the F.U.A. office at 9934-106 Street. Phone 40375.

Renew Your Membership NOW!



FARMERS' UNION OF ALBERTA

November 3-8 is a national week for farm organizations to sign up membership.

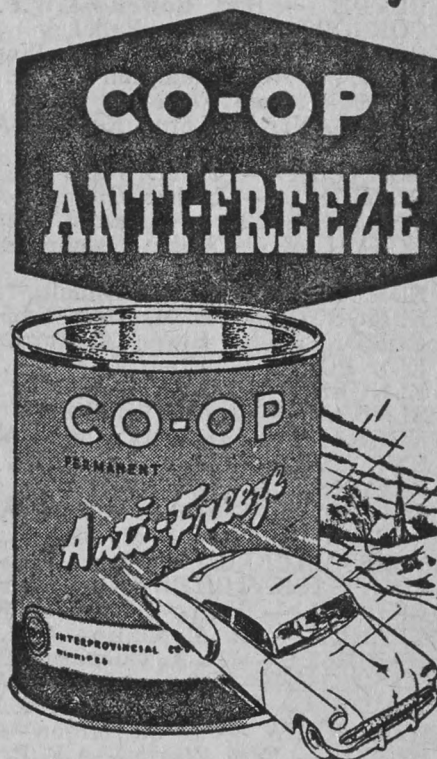
British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario will participate.

Dominion and provincial leaders will take part in campaign. Read your newspapers, listen to radio, watch TV, and canvass.

THE BIGGEST GOOSEBERRY OF THEM ALL

Competitions for the largest gooseberry are well known in Cheshire, reports "Land Worker", official journal of the National Union of Agricultural Workers). Really keen competitors are said to feed their fruit on port wine, to cover trees in cold weather, and in summer to protect fruit from bursting by shading them with umbrellas. The danger of bursting is a major hazard, and a stock joke is to tell a rival that during the night you heard a big bang on his nursery. Competition judges keep the gooseberry entries overnight, and if one goes pop in its box it is disqualified — which forms an obvious source of discord between rivals, and between rivals and judges.

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 GRANDE PRAIRIE — John K. McIntosh—Co-op Store
 GRIMSHAW — Ronald W. Swanston
 HIGH PRAIRIE — S. W. Pisarchuk—H. P. Co-op Assoc.
 HINES CREEK — L. O. Sand.
 HYTHE — L. A. Haglund.
 McLENNAN — Lionel G. Montpetit
 NAMPA — Wallace J. Signer
 NORTH STAR — North Star Co-op
 SEXSMITH — E. R. Cameron
 SPIRIT RIVER — Lauson Scott
 SPIRIT RIVER — Harvey Cuthbert
 VALLEYVIEW — Walter P. Froland.
 WANHAM — Stewart J. Bennett.
 WHITELAW — Maurice H. Trahan

Warns Against Worship of Bigness

Cooley Cites Myths Which Mislead U.S.

Four great myths are being employed today to divide and confuse both farm people and the general public, according to Rep. Harold D. Cooley (D.-N.C.) chairman of the House agriculture committee.

In a strong statement to the recent Congress as it was adjourning, Cooley outlined these myths as follows:

(1) Farmers are told that lower prices will solve their problems.

(2) Farmers are told that increased efficiency will solve their problems.

(3) Farmers are told that movement of people out of agriculture will solve their problems — that is, the problems of those that are left.

(4) Farmers and the Nation at large are told the the price-support program is responsible for surplus farm production."

As to the first myth, Cooley pointed out that the costs of things farmers used in production have been increasing while farmers' profits have been going down. "At the same time," he said, "we do not recall that people who manufacture tractors, trucks, fertilizer, sell fuel and all the other requirements in the production of food and fiber have said that their prices are too high."

As to the second myth, relating to increased efficiency, Cooley continued, "recent experience indicates that the improved methods of production have not solved but have intensified the farm problem.... Output per man-hour of farm labor has increased 127 percent (during the past 20 years). The number of consumers supported by one farm worker has doubled, from 10 in the 1930's to more than 20 today. Yet, for the 5 years, 1953 through 1957, the rewards to the farmer and his family constantly declined.

"The third myth is as cruel a sit is fallacious. It seeks an answer to the farm problem by moving people out of agriculture... The fact is that we have experienced the greatest movement of people from our farms in the last few years that ye have ever known; yet total farm output has increased to new record levels.

"In a discussion of this myth," said Representative Cooley, "the question might well be raised as to what would happen to farm income if the population attrition continues and another one mil-

lion of the approximately five million farm families goes out of agriculture. The annual realized net income of around \$11.5 billion, when divided among five million farms, shows an average per farm income of \$2,300, for investment, management and labor. Divide the same total net of agriculture by four million farms and the per-farm income still is only \$2,875."

In Cooley's view, the consequences of the Administration's farm policy, based upon such myths, may be serious, indeed, for America's basic free-enterprise foundation. He said it would be a sad day for America, if giant corporate farmers supplant our family system in agriculture.

Cooley called attention to the fact that there are today "more independent units of enterprises in agriculture than in all other industry and business combined.... Free enterprise does not live on profits, interest and rentals alone. It prospers by the incentive to every young man that, by devotion to his job and good management of his affairs, some day he may be his own boss — he may own his own farm or his own business.

"Our continent was settled largely by people fleeing from the feudal estates, the baronial-operated farms, of Europe. Bigness did not produce efficiency and strength in a people in the feudal system. In our time, we have the example of the failure of collectivism on the farms of Russia, where the pride and productivity of family unit work and possession have been condemned and suppressed."

Thus, Cooley concluded, "It is astonishing to me that any American, especially an official of the Government who is aware of history and of the world today, could be inclined to such a philosophy, guided solely by bigness in our agriculture.... How then can we stand silent in America, in awe of bigness, while thousands of our farmers are be-possessed because of policies of our government that mitigate against them?"

"... We must begin in the next Congress to repair the damage that Mr. Benson has done — to build a new and effective farm program."

Municipal requisitions will be signed up this year. It is important you take heed.

Canadian Federation of Agriculture Asks For Agencies

OTTAWA.—Bold and determined action by the governments of the world to establish agencies for the use of the world's food and raw material reserves — in the interests of human welfare and a healthy world agriculture — was asked by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture at the opening session of the world farmers' conference now meeting in Brussels.

An eight man Canadian delegation is attending the 10th Conference of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers. This world organization is made up of national farm organizations of 30 countries, on five continents.

H. H. Hannam, President of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, spoke at the opening session held on the grounds of the International Exhibition. He said there is no lack of proposals and studies in this field of international co-operation. What is needed is the will to implement them. The fundamental concept, he said, of an international agency through which governments would adopt joint programs for utilizing the world's reserves of food and raw materials in such a way as to realize their value for human welfare, at the same time avoiding the undermining of the agricultural trade and economies of exporters and importers, is the one that IFAP wholeheartedly endorses..

Members of the Canadian delegation include Gordon Harrold of the Alberta Federation of Agriculture.

Men may love the modest maidens, but you can't make the modern misses believe it.

**F.U.A. ANNUAL
CONVENTION
December 8-12**

N. F. Priestley Dies In Calgary

Norman F. Priestley, well known throughout northern Alberta for his farm organization work, died Saturday in Calgary.

Mr. Priestley served 20 years with the



NORMAN F. PRIESTLEY

United Farmers of Alberta Co-operative Ltd., and at the time of his retirement in 1951 held the post of general manager. Later he was secretary of the Alberta Co-operative Union for four years.

Mr. Priestley, 74, suffered a stroke Tuesday and had been in hospital.

He is survived by his widow, four daughters, Mrs. D. C. Thornton and Mrs. J. Banister, Calgary; Mrs. J. A. Ivan Meyers, Coaldale, and Mrs. J. A. Harding, Portland, Ore.; a son Arthur J., of Portland; two sisters, Mrs. Dora Butson, Seattle and Mrs. L. Kenekeberg, Bremerton, Wash., and 13 grandchildren.

Born in Yorkshire, England, Mr. Priestley came to Edmonton with his family in 1905. He first homesteaded at Onoway, 40 miles northwest of Edmonton. Following graduation from the University of Alberta in 1916 he enlisted in the Canadian forces and served overseas during the First Great War.

On his return to Alberta he was ordained in the Methodist ministry and was stationed at Wainwright and Lethbridge. It was at Lethbridge that he entered the U.F.A. movement, becoming president of the constituency association.

He took over the post of vice-presi-

dent of the U.F.A. in 1931. He combined that office with the chairmanship of the co-operative committee, the cornerstone of the present trading organization.

THIS YEAR IS IMPORTANT

F.U.A. canvassers will be signing up members for municipal collection of dues. It is important that thorough coverage is made in all districts.

Not only active locals but all inactive areas should be canvassed. Organized effort will do the job. Do not leave it to George. Plan a get-together and divide the work among the neighbors. Share the load. Try to get the job done in one day.

Summarize the reports and send them to central office.

The honeymoon is over when your wife starts to complain about the noise you make at breakfast.

* * *

Almost anyone can plan, but it takes work and intelligence to execute a program.

SAVE
on all your



**LOW COST, RUGGED
PORK GROWERS**

SAVE FEED — SAVE TIME — LOWER YOUR COST OF PRODUCTION — with a hog self-feeder from U.F.A. Co-op. These hog feeders are of good, heavy construction for long life. They are made of premier grade galvanized steel. Feeding space lids are 16 gauge, bottom hopper 20 gauge and upper hopper is 22 gauge material. The price is unbelievably low for this quality of a feeder. Write for details or see these feeders at your nearest U.F.A. Co-op Farm Supply Shopping Centre — In Edmonton, just off the Fort Trail and south of Canada Packers in North Edmonton . . . In Calgary, at 4720 1st Street S.E.

While you are checking on hog feeders, you'll want to know more about the Farmgard Tractor Heater Cabs. These very reasonably priced canvas cabs utilize the heat of the tractor motor to assure the comfort of the operator even in the coldest weather.

Address mail enquiries to Box 1056, North Edmonton or to:

U.F.A. CO-OPERATIVE LTD.

125 - 11th Ave., S.E., CALGARY.

Veterans' Section

by C. C. VERSLUYS

We hope everyone of our members is enthused and ready to take part in the F.U.A. Membership Drive — Nov-3-8. Our leaders are ready to give us every assistance to make this the most successful drive ever.

We would like to draw attention to the fact that we as veterans still have a responsibility to our great country and the communities in which we live. We can give recognition to this truism by lending our efforts to such important tasks as the one above mentioned.

A number of municipal districts in the province are proving their willingness to co-operate in the collection of the F.U.A. membership fees and we are hopeful that the remainder will see fit to follow suit.

The attention of all ex-service men and women who are members of the Farmers' Union is directed to the annual gathering of the Veterans' Section. It will be held in the evening of the opening day of the provincial convention. Time and date — 7:30 p.m. Monday, December 8. Place — one of the salons on the convention floor of the Macdonald Hotel.

Mr. W. G. O'Brien, district superintendent for the Veterans' Land Act and Soldier Settlement Board has kindly consented to address our group. The theme of his address will be "Supervised Farm Credit and Production Line Farming," a topic which no doubt all farmers are giving some thought.

The success of the Veterans' Land Act in establishing veterans on the land, and the very high percentage of repayment of loans by the veterans, has many responsible people questioning if this principle cannot be satisfactorily applied to solving a great part of the difficulty encountered by farmers in acquiring suitable credit for land purchase. There seems to be a growing awareness on the part of governments for the need of economic farm units, and the need of credit to help establish them. No doubt Mr. O'Brien will have some message in this regard.

To non-veterans interested in attending our session we extend a cordial welcome to sit in with us to hear Mr. O'Brien's address.

We feel sure there will be many new delegates attending the provincial convention and we especially urge all veterans, men or women, to drop in and take part in our deliberations.

"Farm Forum is On The Air"

National Farm Radio Forum starts rolling on Monday, November 3 at 8:30 p.m. This program will be heard over radio stations CFCP, Grande Prairie; CBX and CBXA, Edmonton; and CJOC, Lethbridge.

On November 3 the topic for discussion will be "What Price Freedom?" Is the farmer losing his independence to economic security or does this security provide greater freedom?

Crop Insurance for the Prairie Grain Producer will be discussed on November 10. This is an equally important issue. Can you afford crop insurance, or can you afford to be without it?

Farm Forum provides the opportunity to study, discuss and to report your opinion on these any many other important issues during the winter months.

—Reprint from Home Provisioners

WELCOME THE F.U.A. CANVASSERS

The role of the F.U.A. canvasser is to sign up the members and collect the dues. The farm people should receive the canvassers graciously. No other behavior should be exhibited.

If a farmer has a problem to discuss, the proper place for such a question is at the F.U.A. local meeting. That is what the F.U.A. locals exist for.

As far as the reality is concerned of the present day economic situations, erratic individualistic behaviors are for the birds. Let us not make an error on this point.

It is the group action that counts. F.U.A. is the way. Minimum objective for the F.U.A. is 40,000 farm families.

A single iceberg sometimes contains enough ice to cover a square mile of ocean to a depth of 500 feet.

* * *

The best way to eliminate opponents in most debates is to let them do the talking; sooner or later, they will hang themselves with the rope you give them.

Sniping at the Crowsnest Pass Grain Freight Rates

For years the eastern industrialist has been sniping at the only protection the Western Canadian wheat farmer can lay claim to . . . the Crowsnest Pass Freight Agreement. It is true that these rates were established as far back as 1899 and for the time being are statutory. No government has had the audacity to abrogate this agreement in detriment to the Western Canadian wheat producer and no government would be in power which dared to take the chance and do so. It is all very well for these sanctimonious observers in Eastern Canada to point their fingers at the Crowsnest Pass Agreement, but Canada has paid through the nose for the privileges it gives the Western wheat growers. These big shots down east, who bask in the sunshine of competitive water rates, have little right to sneer at the slight advantage the wheat producer enjoys. We must repeat again that Canada's entire freight structure requires to be revised so that favoritism does not bring advantage to the many in prejudice to the few. The cross-Canada rate structure is far more out of line than the Crowsnest Pass rate structure. You notice that Ontario and Quebec are not opposing freight rate increases for they know that they can always slap down this water competitive differential and make it stick. We would like to see someone with authority make a thorough review of the Canadian freight rate structure and publicize the comparative rates charged for hauling freight in Ontario with freight rates charged against traffic moving westward from Ontario to points in Western Canada. There would be many an embarrassed politician seeking plausible explanations from officials in Ottawa.

Camrose Canadian)

CO-OPERATION

If all the farmers, far and wide,
Some real co-operation tried,
Their foes would say, with blanching faces,
"Just see those hay seeds going places!
They always seemed so slow and dumb,
So easy kept beneath our thumb,
But surely it is most surprising,
What they have done by organizing!
And now to us they can dictate,
Because they all co-operate!"

Elma Helgason,
in Wheat Pool Budget.

FREEDOM ON THE FARM

The Right Reverend Reginald J. Pierce, Bishop of Athabasca

Good afternoon. I read again the other day the story of the Arab and his camel, which I'm sure you must know. It was a cold night, and the Arab was in his tent in the desert. The camel pushed his nose under the flap of the tent and said, "Master, please let me put my nose under the flap of your tent, for it's cold and stormy out here." "Why, certainly; please do," said the Arab, and lay down to sleep. Soon he woke up, feeling chilly. By now the

camel had his nose in the tent up to his shoulders. He said, "You know, I shall only take a little more room if I put my front feet in the tent, and it's difficult standing this way." "Please do put your feet in," said the Arab, moving over to make room, and he went back to sleep. But a little later the camel woke him again, "Would you not want me to stand entirely within the tent? I keep the flap open this way." "Yes, by all means come right

in, it would be better," said the Arab, and he crowded himself into the small remaining corner and finally managed to get off to sleep again. Next time he woke up, he found that he was outside on the desert, and the camel had the whole tent to himself.

I read that story this week in connection with something that has been happening to farmers. The story was told by a member of the Minnesota Farmers' Union, who feels very strongly that modern industry is playing the part of the camel in the farmers' tent. According to the writer, a process is going on already in the States whereby certain branches of industry are pushing in to the farmers' preserves, with the result that inevitably the farmer will be left out in the cold, and in place of abundance of the basic foods the whole nation, farmers and non-farmers alike, will find a planned scarcity of food resulting in hardships which we have not known before.

I have spoken before of the appearance of very large corporate farms; apparently that process is so developing now it is predicted that within twenty years there will be no more family farms in the States, and of course no more rural communities. Together with the big corporation farm two new ideas have now appeared however: contract farming and vertical integration; or, rather, they have become widespread, for contract farming is not new.

Contract farming usually involves a food processing company or a tobacco company or something of the sort; the company contracts to furnish or to receive certain services with the farmer. In this part of the country I know grass seed has been grown by contract. The contract varies, it may deal only with the crop, or it may include everything from foods and supplements to equipment, livestock, credit and a market. The farmer in this case is an independent operator, although he may have few if any operating decisions to make.

Vertical integration is different. Here the business firm—say a big chain store, which formerly has bought peas from farmers for canning, decides to raise its own pease and goes into the pea farming business. Here the man who lives in the farm house is as directly an employee of the company as the girl on the cash register. If this technique proves profitable for industry, we can expect a rapid increase in it; then the only concern becomes profit, with no concern for the survival of the private farmer, opportunity for the local businessman, or finally bargains for the consumer.

(Continued on Page 26)

Coverage and Level of Price Support

The guaranteed or "operating" support levels for the nine "key" commodities and for eleven other "designated" products, under the Agricultural Stabilization Act to October 7, 1958, appear below in tabular form. In addition, price support authorized under the former Agricultural Prices Support Act has been continued for live turkeys at 25 cents per pound, Toronto, and for the 1957 crop of P.E.I. potatoes at 45 cents per 75 pounds of potatoes offered to the Board in farm storages.

Agricultural Products under the Agricultural Stabilization Act, to October 7, 1958

KEY COMMODITIES:	Basic grade and market	Unit	Base price \$	Effective price \$	% of base price %	Effective period and method of support
1. Wheat	(No. 2 C.E. bu.		1.77	1.42	80)	July 1/58-
	(or better				80)	
2. Oats	on track, bu.		.72	.58	80)	June 30 30/59
	(Ontario				80)	
3. Barley	shipping bu.		1.04	.83	80)	
	(points				80)	
4. Cattle (steers, live)	(Good, cwt.		21.80	17.50	80)	April 1/58-
	(80)	
5. Sheep (lambs live)	(Toronto cwt.		24.45	19.55	80)	March 31/59
	(80)	
6. Hogs (carcass, warm dressed weight)	Grade A delivered public stock-yards, Toronto	cwt.	29.75	25.00	84	April 1/58-Mar. 31/59; purchase
7. Butter	Canada 1st lb. grade creamery Montreal		.60	.64	107	May 1/58-April 30/59; purchase
8. Cheese - Ontario	Canada 1st lb. grade waxed cheddar, f.o.b. Ontario ware-house	lb.	.31	.34	110	(May 1/58- (April 30/59;
	—Quebec	Same grade, lb. delivered Montreal	.305	.335	110	(purchase (
9. Eggs	Canada A Large, delivered Montreal	doz.	52	.44	85	May 5/58-May 4/59; purchase

Science, Technology, and Farm Business Management

It goes without question that farm business management ability is becoming a very much more important resource than in former years. Rapid strides in scientific research have been an important factor in bringing this about. For one thing, most farm people in Alberta now want, and have access to a higher standard of living in the form of more education for their children, better dwellings with the modern conveniences of automatic heating and water pressure systems, electrical appliances, and so on. This requires that a farm operator make more money to meet these increased desires. Taxes have also increased, due largely to increased municipal services such as schools, hospitals, and roads.

The farmer is also becoming much more dependent on outside agencies to supply him with such items as tractor power, electricity, premixed feeds, fertilizer, and expensive labor saving equipment, the bulk of which he used to supply himself, or do without. In other words, most farmers now buy more of their farm production items in the semi-manufactured stage, because they feel these outside agencies can, through specialization, supply them better and more cheaply, thus leaving the farmer more time to concentrate strictly on the job of production itself. This means he must operate more on a volume-narrow-margin basis than in former years. He is, more and more, becoming a specialist, performing a proportionately smaller and smaller number of activities in the chain of food production. This process has gradually been coming about at a time when farm business adjustments have been further impeded by the so-called "cost-price squeeze", where the costs of farm production items have been rising, and farm products have been falling off. All of these factors have made it necessary for farmers to run their business with much closer scrutiny and management in order to keep receipts enough higher than expenses to leave a residual for adequate present day living standards.

Canada, and especially the west, is a relatively new country as far as agriculture is concerned. Many of us here today have seen agricultural development from the early days of pioneering up to the present time. In the homestead days, human muscle power was one of the chief resources requirements of a farmer. Today on the other hand, most of our farms are fairly well de-



A. L. Petersen, Agric. Economist

veloped, and the ability to think logically in making sound management decisions is rapidly becoming more important than a strong back in this business of farming. We are at the present time well into one of the biggest industrial revolutions in agriculture on this continent that the world has ever seen. Science has already given us more production tools for agriculture than most of us had ever thought possible. This has given farmers in North America, and in Canada and Alberta one of the highest rates of farm production per man anywhere in the world. In the past 20 years, the production of farm products per farm worker has doubled. This in effect means that a considerably smaller farm labor force is now producing food for substantially larger population. This trend will undoubtedly continue as science leads the way to improved farm technology, and it will continue to give increasing difficulties to those operators who resist change in farm organization made necessary by the changing times.

We have heard a lot over the past years about farm price subsidies, floor prices, and so on. Farmers certainly need some sort of stabilizing scheme to aid in levelling out the usual wide price fluctuations in order that they can plan their operations with some degree of security. However, it is questionable whether in the interests of agriculture as a whole, it would be wise to establish a very much higher overall farm product price level relative to other products than we have at present. Artificially high price supports usually lead to a multitude of sins, with the end result

that the majority of farm operators are worse off than they were to start with. It is true that on a per worker basis, Canadian farmers as a group are at the present time not sharing in the nation's economy to the same degree as urban people. Statistics show this to be true. This statement however, does not tell us much about the nature of the farm problem. The inevitable and popular conclusion is that all farmers receive a low income. To accept this without qualification would be very misleading. One thing which we should accept in connection with agricultural statistics is that "off the farm revenue" made by farmers is not shown as income to the farm population, but is included in returns to the urban sector. This is becoming an increasingly biasing effect as part time farming by both farmers, and urban dwellers increases. It has been estimated that approximately 50 per cent of the income to farmers east of Toronto is derived from "off the farm" work. Many of these farmers are former urban dwellers who prefer to live on a "farm" in the country, while many more are farmers who have had their lands partly absorbed by industry, and who see the opportunities of urban employment to subsidize their undersized farm units. If we are to honestly appraise farm statistics in order to determine the financial condition of our truly commercial farmers in Canada, we certainly must make adjustment for factors such as these.

Looking more closely at statistics, we see that only about 5% of Canadian farmers sell more than \$10,000 worth of farm produce per year. (A farm by the way, according to census definition is a holding which is three acres or more in size, or one from which agricultural production exceeds \$250.00 per year.) This 5% contributes almost 25% of the total farm product sales. At the lower end of the scale, almost two thirds of the 600,000 Canadian farms sell a gross of less than \$2500 worth of farm produce per year. As a group, their average yearly gross sales before deducting any expenses came to roughly \$1,000 per farm. This group of almost 400,000 farms contribute only about one quarter of farm product sales. Further calculation shows that almost 80% of farm product sales comes from only about one third of the farms in Canada. Most of these are on the prairies. What, then, is the result of many of the attempts at improving the overall farm income situation through subsidization of the price system? This is what happens. Those farm operators already in a position to make good farm profits receive by far the largest share of the increased income benefits, while the extremely

large percentage of very small producers receive only a very minute portion, because as a group they sell a very small percentage of the total farm produce in Canada. Thus a high price support aids the relatively few larger, already well organized and well managed commercial farms selling the major portion of the farm products, while the large group of small producers are helped very little. From a welfare point of view, this is the opposite purpose for which such aid is intended. It puts the already high income group of farms in a much better position to squeeze out their small neighbors, by bidding for land at a much higher price than the little fellow could ever hope to pay, and also incidentally has the effect of perhaps overinflating land prices.

From these foregoing figures, we see that there is a tremendous difference

between groups of farms across Canada in the amount of production, and profits made. There does not appear to be such a thing as the "average farm" that we hear so much about. The differences are so great between farms that we can see there are a lot of headaches involved in so-called price subsidies, of other forms of aid, and their distribution into the desired hands, even though certain forms of assistance are undoubtedly necessary in the agricultural economy.

It is not only at the national level that we find such terrific ranges between certain groups of farms which do well, and other large groups which do consistently poorly. Most of us are conscious of this situation right here in Alberta. Through results of local farm business studies involving a number of farms in the same district, we find large differences in net incomes or profits. Graph I indicates this very clearly for the five year period 1951 to 1955 in the Leduc-Wetaskiwin-Thorsby areas. Farm operators labor earnings ranged from a minus \$1500 per year on the lowest income farm to well over \$9000 on the most successful financially. The term "operators labor earnings" may be new to many of the readers. This is what is left out of the year's operations to the farmer himself for his work and management after paying all cash farm operating expenses, depreciation, family labor, and after paying a 5% return on the farm investment. In other words, it represents the salary a farmer is left with after all other farm resource costs have been accounted for against farm gross operating receipts. It is one of the best measures farm economists have found

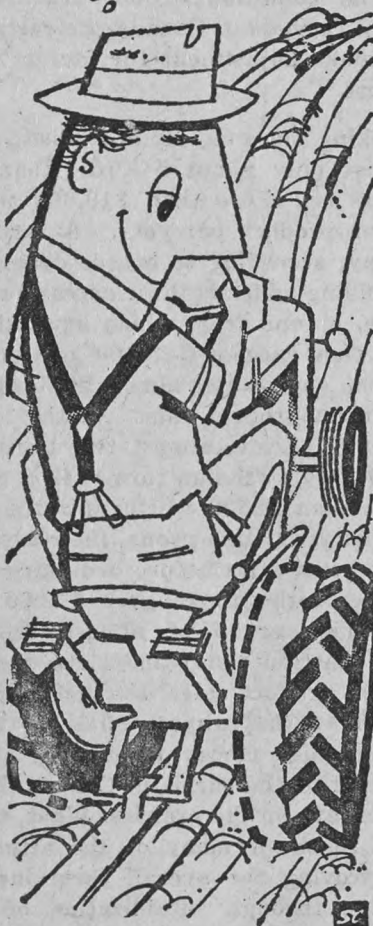
for comparing all types of farms for their effectiveness in the use of agricultural resources which are usually grouped into the four categories of land, labor, working capital.

Land, labor, working capital, and management ability are the items a farmer has at his disposal to work with in running his farm business, and just as some farmers have better land and more capital than others, some also have better managerial ability than others, either because they have read more, had more training, or simply because they have a natural knack for making the right decisions at the right time. Differences in earnings do not necessarily infer that one farmer is a poor manager, while another is not, because differences in profits over a number of years may be also due to lack of capital, poor land or just simply tough breaks such as hail and other uncontrollable hazards. However, as science finds answers to these problems, they become management problems rather than risk problems.

We have just seen that there are two areas where an individual farmer can increase his profits. One is through overall higher prices. However, as an individual, he can't do much about prices. This is where group action can be effective. Furthermore, if he is a small producer, a big price hike may not help him much anyway. The second way he can increase his net income is through reorganizing and operating his farm unit so as to obtain either higher receipts (more volume) or lower costs per unit of production under prices and costs of things he buys and sells. This



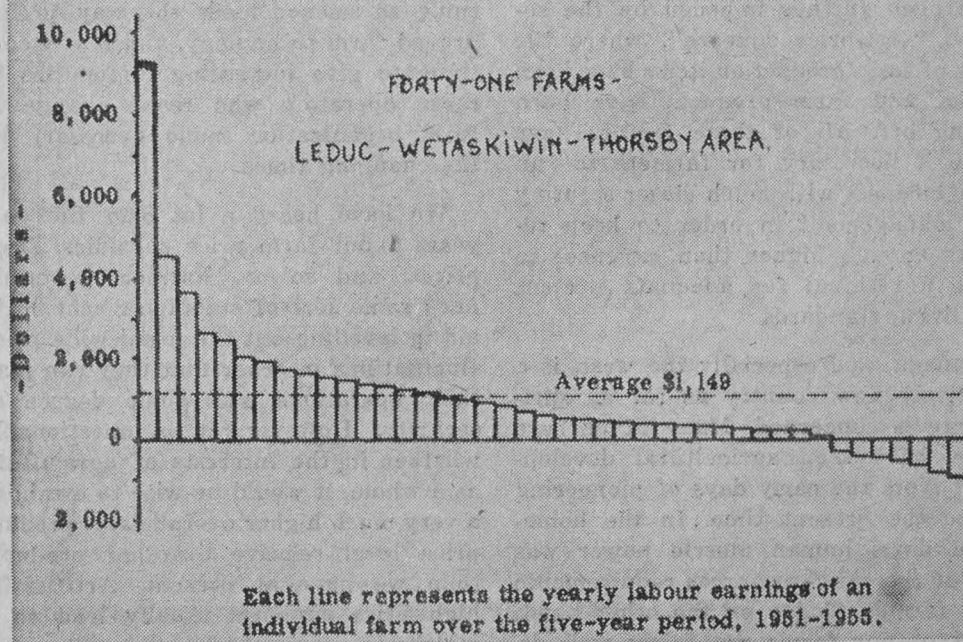
Courtesy
Allis-Chalmers
member National
Safety Council



THINK AHEAD! Space
your wheels for hillside
safety.

GRAPH I

Ranges in Individual Labour Earnings,
All Farms Studied, 1951-1955.



whole process of making decisions in farm organization and operation to try for highest profits is called farm management. The term farm management is relatively new in the field of agricultural science. Farm management is now the name applied to a separate science in agriculture just like animal science, plant science, genetics and so on. Farm management is sometimes formally called production economics. Farm management is a science dealing with the business principles involved in the organization and operation of a farm and its enterprises to yield the greatest continuous profit. It places the operation of a farm on a business basis with the aim of producing at the lowest cost and selling to the best advantage. Farm management as a science, deals to a great extent with the processes of making farm business decisions on the part of the farm operator and his family. An operator who makes too many wrong conclusions due to either not obtaining enough information on the problems in question, or perhaps getting the wrong information from his sources of supply. A good manager on the other hand, is one whose decisions on how to best run his operations are more often correct than wrong. He is sometimes called lucky although in many cases he has developed a better than average technique in his decision making process. Not only does he usually know what is best to do, but he also takes action on whatever is his problem, and he is willing to accept the outcome, good or bad. He is not afraid to act.

It is obvious that there are many hundreds of situations in running a farm where wise decisions must be made. They cannot be made helter-skelter. We must give priority to the important ones first. This is why one of the first steps in a sound farming program is a good set of farm records so that you can through a figure snapshot tell exactly where you are financially, and how you got there. In addition to this, farm business analysis is the next requirement in order to tell where your farm organization and management is weakest in the creation of profits, so that you can take steps to correct the situation in the best possible way. We should always keep in mind that it is very important to analyze for major weak and strong points first in order not to get carried away and worried about minor items, which really don't count much toward higher profits anyhow.

This brings up the question of why some farmers within a given district make more money than others. There are of course a multitude of reasons, some very important, while others are relatively

unimportant. It is very important in farm management analysis that we give consideration to the top priority factors first.

Results from farm management studies in Canada and other countries indicate that biggest difference between incomes on farms in similar areas are specifically associated with differences in:

1. Size of operation, or acres of crops and number of livestock.
2. Use of labor, or output per man.
3. Use of capital, or turnover on investment.
4. Livestock yields per animal.
5. Crop yields per acre.
6. Enterprise combinations, or lines of production undertaken.

Local studies in Alberta show clearly that it is not always good land or large acreage that puts a farmer in the high income group. In fact, some of the higher income farms on these studies were only on medium quality soils, while frequently smaller farms made more money than some of the larger ones. Neither did those men with the most livestock, or any certain type of livestock necessarily always make the greatest profits. Rather, it was that group of farmers which had favorable balances between, and who gave equal importance to all these factors of crop and livestock yields, use of labor and capital, farm size and combination of enterprises or lines of production. Farmers who were at least average or better in the above six factors made as much as \$500 or \$6000 more per year than those who were below average for the district in all size farms. In fact, for each of the six factors a farmer was average or better for the district, approximately \$500 to \$1000 was added to his net income. Chart I illustrates this trend very clearly on the group of some 50 farms co-operating in the farm business study in the Leduc-Wetaskiwin-Thorsby areas of Alberta. It will be readily seen that it is much more important to bring the use of all these factors of labor, capital, livestock, crops, size of business, and enterprise combinations up to at least average for the district than to bring any one of them along to a very high degree of efficiency. Once average levels for the district have been attained in all, the next objective should be to systematically (bring) them all together to above average levels.

Chart I.

The combined effect of 1. livestock efficiency, 2. crop efficiency, 3. capital efficiency, 4. labor efficiency, 5. and size of the farm business on labor earnings of 50 farm operators in the Leduc-Wetaskiwin-Thorsby areas of Alberta.

Number of Efficiency Factors Above Average For the District	Number of Farms Where this Occurred	Resultant Yearly Average Labor Earnings Per Farm Operator
0	4	\$ Minus 153
1	5	381
2	14	576
3	11	1,195
4	5	2,746
5	2	5,932

There is no adequate arithmetic measure for enterprise choices so it has not been included in the above chart.

The so-called "farm problem" then is not only one of what many consider to be inadequate farm product prices, but also one of general farm organization and management problems brought about by rapid strides in farm technology. There is urgent need for more farm management and market research in order that we can more wisely cope with and forecast economic consequences to the farm family due to scientific advances in agriculture. In the short run a favorable cost-price relationship will alleviate the farm situation somewhat. In the long run however, this is not the basic answer to the farm problem. Long run agricultural policies should include the following points:

1. More emphasis on farm management and farm economic research together with methods for refinements of agricultural statistics and indexes so that we can more intelligently present the farm case to the authorities, while at the same time being better able to rectify some of the farm ills we as individual farm operators can do something about.

2. Improve educational opportunities in rural areas. A good basic education makes it easier for those in farming to benefit from research and extension. It also improves job opportunities for those who must leave the farm.

3. Emphasize a farm credit program

which will lead toward farms of adequate size to take full advantage of the results of research. Small farms and underemployment in agriculture is one of our basic problems, due largely to technological advance which has replaced labor to a great extent by capital equipment. Credit should be geared to the individual with the knowledge and ability to operate a farm which will use his labor and management effectively.

4. Promote the development of industry and commerce in rural areas where underemployment in agriculture is a major problem. This creates markets for farm products as well as job opportunities for those who wish to continue to carry on part time farming operations.

5. Adopt programs of sound land use, not only for agriculture, but for industry as well. Many of our better farm lands are being taken up for urban industry, while many of our farmers are cultivating sub marginal lands.

6. Recognize that the problems of low farm income is also one of the uneconomic size of many of our farm units as well (as) farm product prices. Prices alone cannot appreciably help our thousands of undersized farms. If the price of grains were increased 50%, it would materially improve the position of a farm operator with five or six hundred bushels to sell, even though it would help relatively few larger operators considerably.

The major goal for agriculture should be the establishment and maintenance of the family type, efficient economic farm unit. Whatever action is taken, it should avoid freezing any uneconomic pattern of farm ownership and operation. Technological progress in agriculture has been, and will continue to be a disrupting force to the individual farm unit, causing its organization and operation to become out of date in some cases very rapidly. As a result, there is the constant tendency toward the sub-marginal farm business. This is one of the costs, and challenges of progress. There is no standing still. We either move ahead with adjustment to fit the times, or fail.

FREEDOM ON THE FARM

(Continued from Page 22)

I had always understood that one of the joys of farm life was the farmer's independence. He could tell any man in the country just exactly what he felt without fear or favour, and he could regulate his own life exactly as he wished. All this of course would

vanish if contract farming and vertical integration ever became the rule. Will they? Surely this is only a bogey being raised in the distant east and south where the country is overrun by cities and factories anyway? In the United States 90 per cent of all broiler chickens are now grown under contract. During the process of changing over a steadily increased production has been insisted on, and those farmers who could not meet the demands have been wiped out. Now the egg industry has become involved in the States, particularly on the Pacific coast and in New England. Here there is vertical integration, for the food dealer furnishes equipment and supplies, supervises the life of the farm, and holds title to birds and eggs. Here in most districts involved there is something like a monopoly, with a few firms owning the whole industry in the area, and controlling wholesale prices, so that the stubborn independent poultryman is easily pushed out of business. In the south the meat packing firms have stepped into this picture of vertical integration, and have at least two thousand contracts for hogs. The process is spreading rapidly, and is including all types of livestock. In certain areas of the south, I am told that the stage has already been reached where a farmer for all practical purposes must either sign a contract or give up farming. The only bright spot is that often he can sign it with other farmers in a co-operative, and that at any rate is not as bad as signing his life away to somebody outside.

The American farmer seems to be going through a squeeze at the moment. If he accepts high price supports from government agencies, they regulate his production and he is no longer free. If he rids himself of government controls, he finds prices low and supplies expensive, and he is forced into a contract with industry, and again loses his freedom. Where industry has gone seriously into vertical integration, then everybody in the countryside is bypassed—the local farmer, the grocer, the hardware man; no one in the town and country area is in the picture at all.

Surely if this type of activity proves profitable to industry throughout the States, we shall not have to wait too long before it appears in our country in large scale too. Of course, we have something of it now with the fruit crops and tobacco crops, for example, but in our countryside we have not seen it in action in any large scale. But we can be sure that if this revolution in agriculture proves profitable to American industry, we shall not have long to wait before the process crosses the border.

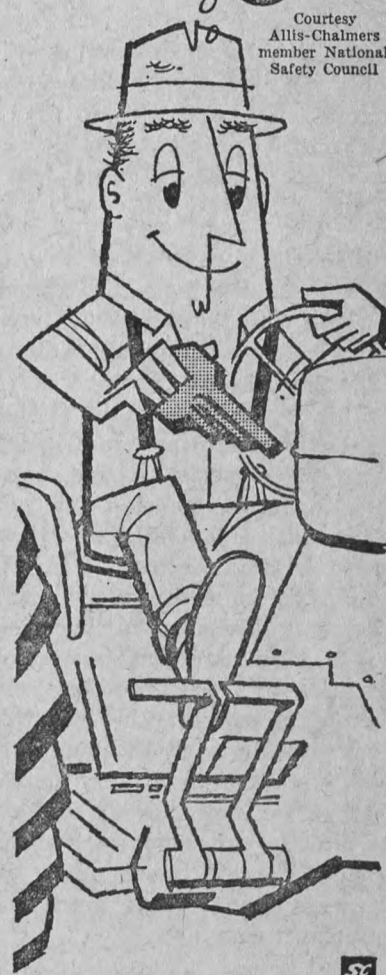
Indeed, it has already crossed, for I am told that in the Quebec packing houses have entered into contract with the farmers, and are giving assistance in the building of chicken houses for the raising of broilers contracted to the company.

Those who have already suffered under the revolution are by no means happy, and they advocate certain safeguards; they suggest for one thing a great strengthening of the farmers' own co-operatives, as the only organized business effort of the farmers. They speak of government legislation to check vertical integration, but are not at all hopeful of getting it. They speak of curtailing industrial profits, and point to the way in which agricultural profits have been steadily curtailed. They feel that if this could be done, industry would

(Continued on Page 30)



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Some Recent Developments In Economic Theory And Their Significance To Agricultural Economy

Summary of Report by O. H. Brownlee, Minnesota

The General Theory of Employment Interest and Money advanced by John Maynard Keynes is still the best model to explain the economic reality of the present day. This theory stimulated many economists, and people in general, to look at the whole nation and watch the general economic development. This is quite a change from old fashioned economics.

Mathematical Programming

One of the most important developments that has occurred in economic theory during the past decade is mathematical programming, particularly linear programming. Linear programming is a way of stating and solving certain economic problems including many of the problems facing business firms. It already has been applied to some problems of farm management and marketing and rapidly is becoming a part of the tool kit of many agricultural economists.

Theories of Choice From Among Uncertain Prospects

Basically, the problem is one of choosing a given course of action from among a number of possible ones, each of which has known outcomes for each of various possible "states of nature." The simple pay-off-table of a game representation is an example of how the outcomes can be related to possible "states of nature." The course of action to be (or that will be) chosen depends upon:

(1) the preferences of the individual, and (2) the kind of uncertainty with respect to the "state of nature."

Regardless of the choice rule the form of the choice can be that of a **strategy**—the specification of a function which states the relation between action at any time in the future and the information available at that time but not available when the strategy was chosen. Thus the theory is closely related to A. Wald's theory of sequential analysis of statistical data.

Applications of this formulation have been made to inventory problems and obviously can be relevant to farm management, marketing and agricultural policy. The optimal levels of stocks of various products and inputs held by the firm are important problems for farm producers and processors. Similarly,

stock policy for raw materials is an important question. Since the distribution of inputs among various alternative uses is a problem not unlike that of the distribution of stocks, production problems might also be treated in a similar way.

In the future farm managers and other economic consultants cannot state rules as simple as those we have been inclined to use, if the present drift of the theory is a promising one.

Somewhat related to theories of behavior under uncertainty and drawing more heavily upon related social sciences, and some physical sciences, are formulations of information processing within a firm and the optimal organizational arrangements. Traditional economic theory has ignored the costs of obtaining information about the environment (the demand for a product, production relations, etc.), processing such information and using it as the basis for making decisions. Yet, we know that business firms spend a good deal on such activities as market research, keep records of various kinds, etc. Also, we know that some kinds of economic organizations need more information of certain kinds than do others in order to make given decisions.

Since the nature of the organization—as characterized by the degree of centralization, for example—affects the value of information, the optimal organization for a given environmental situation also can be specified.

Welfare Economics

Everyone who is concerned honestly with the effects of various economic policies upon the nebulous criterion "the general welfare" is concerned with welfare economics. However, during the past two decades, the term welfare economics has come to be associated with the conditions under which economic arrangements can lead to situations in which no individual in the economy can be made better off, without making at least one other individual worse off. Such situations are known as **Pareto optimal** ones.

Factor Price Equalization In International Trade

One of the truly original developments in economic theory is that relating to how resource prices are related to

each other internationally when commodities can be traded but resource endowments in each country are given. Samuelson showed that under very special conditions including: (1) a world of two countries each producing two commodities with two resources (2) identical production functions in each country, the production function for each commodity being a Cobb-Douglas with constant returns to scale (3) different ratios of the quantity of one resource to that of the other in the two countries and (4) trading in both commodities between the two countries and (5) absence of transport costs or artificial barriers, factor prices in the two countries would be equal at equilibrium. ghm.o

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Why, How and Who Of Integration

Horizontal integration in the meat industry is still in the experimental stage, but some of the livestock producers, feed companies, packers and chains who are experimenting are willing to continue because of a six-letter word—"Profit."

The hog farmer figures his risk is minimized if he listens to the feed company. The feed company sees greater sales by offering some inducement to the farmer. The packer, by-passing the feed company, offers premium prices to the hog farmer for uniform meat-type hogs. The chain is interested in processing meats, which means more aspirin for the meat packer.

Let's see what some people in the industry think about this integration. One agricultural economist claims that integration, whether from the bottom up, or from the top down, means that the farmer will be giving up some of his traditional freedom. A successful Corn Belt farm manager declares: "I don't intend to sit idly by and twiddle my thumbs while my economic back is being broken by private enterprise."

The general manager of a New York state retail food chain comes up with a comment that has merit: "Of the 175,000,000 tons of food sold annually—and for this year it included almost 27,000,000,000 lbs. of meat food products—almost every item is probably sold three or four times. Maybe more integration would reduce the number of transactions."

All Segments Alerted

A serious three-day discussion of the impact of integration on animal agriculture was held recently at Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind., with the audience made up of livestock marketers, private and co-operative; college deans, agricultural economists, farm managers, feed manufacturers, chain store operators and meat packers.

Earl F. Crouse, vice-president, Doane Agricultural Service, Inc., St. Louis, said: "This new system of marketing is now being tried out in the large animal industries. No man can predict with certainty how all of this will work out, but enough has happened to cause the entire Corn Belt area to take notice—and well it should. If the effect in the Corn Belt is as great as it has been in other areas, we'll hardly recognize these basic farm enterprises in another 10 to 20 years."

"Contract production of pork and beef has been the subject of many farm meetings, private, local, state and national—during the past several months. The discussions also involved the businessmen

who serve the farmer. This applies particularly to the stockyards folks who find their position threatened by these new developments in marketing of livestock.

"Sometimes in these discussions we forget that the farmer is also a specification buyer. He is the man who decides what feed, what fertilizer, what fuel, what seed, what machinery and what of everything he will buy. Vertical integration, therefore, includes the efforts on the part of suppliers to get their products in line to be specified by the farmer.

Feed Companies Aggressive

"The feed companies have been so aggressive that some have become the integrators. Indeed, the feed companies should be given credit for their efforts in breaking the deadlock between farmers on one side and processors on the other. These two groups found themselves so widely separated that it took a third party to bring them together." Crouse touched on two more possible ways of visualizing the marketing system under integration. "First, when a businessman or the company he represents sets up an organization and becomes the integrator, we think of it as integration from the top down. The other way," Crouse continued, "is for the farmer to organize and through his co-operative create an integrated structure for the marketing of his products. To be successful the co-operative must be competitive with the private business organization that also wants in on the business."

"Among other things this means salesmen to contact and work with the specification buyer of the chain store. In order to get the products of his co-operative into the supermarket the salesman soon finds that he has to guarantee quality and meet rigid supply standards. To accomplish this some of the more aggressive co-operatives now require the equivalent of a contract from their members. Over a period of time, these contracts or agreements will become more and more binding."

"The real danger, as I see it," continued Crouse, "comes from another quarter—namely, integration by government. We already have more of this than I like to think about in terms of government price support programs of all sorts. If you will take a close look at how the various government programs work you will find that all of them bear a striking resemblance to the concept of contract farming."

—Reprint from Home Provisioners

The trouble with today's smart children, quips an oldtimer, is that they don't smart in the right places.

OTTAWA ECHOES

HANSARD—Vol. 102, No. 28

ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY — Announcement of Proposed Tolls

HON. GEO. H. HEES:

The St. Lawrence Seaway authority of Canada and the St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation of the United States in a simultaneous announcement today are making public the proposed tolls which may form the basis of recommendations to their respective governments to meet the requirements of the legislation of each country. The recommendations which were submitted by the Canadian tolls committee and by the United States tolls committee are in complete agreement.

The main features of the proposed toll structure are as follows: For each passage through the entire seaway, Montreal to or from Lake Erie, a vessel will be assessed 6 cents per gross registered ton of vessel and in addition 42 cents per ton of bulk cargo and 95 cents per ton of general cargo carried. For each passage, Montreal to or from Lake Ontario only, a vessel will be assessed 4 cents per gross registered ton of vessel and in addition 40 cents per ton of bulk cargo and 90 cents per ton of general cargo carried.

Vol. 102 — No. 30

GRAIN—Announcement of Base Prices for Ontario Wheat, Oats and Barley

HON. D. M. HARKNESS:

I wish to announce that in accordance with the requirements of the Agricultural Stabilization Act, the agricultural stabilization board has established base prices based on the average prices for the last ten years, for wheat, oats and barley.

The Ontario basis is as follows: Ontario wheat, \$1.77 per bushel on track for No. 2 C.E. or better quality; Ontario oats, 72 cents per bushel on track for No. 2 C.E. or better quality; Ontario barley, \$1.04 per bushel on track for No. 2 C.E. or better quality.

Using the above mentioned base prices the board has established a mandatory 80 per cent support price which will be in effect for the 12-month period starting July 31, 1958, as follows: Ontario wheat, \$1.42 per bushel on track for No. 2 C.E. or better quality; Ontario oats, 58 cents per bushel on track for No. 2 C.E. or better quality; Ontario barley, 83 cents per bushel on track for No. 2 C.E. or better quality.

In the case of other provinces, outside the designated Canadian wheat board areas, where any of these grains are grown in commercial quantities, the support prices will be established in appropriate relationship to the above mentioned Ontario prices.

HON. PAUL MARTIN:

With regard to the mandatory price of \$1.42, am I not correct in saying that this is not the figure which has been urged upon the minister by a number of representative groups of Ontario farmers, who have discussed this matter with him within the last few months? Is it not also a fact that they have indicated the great danger in the future of a price at this level being construed as and developing into a ceiling price rather than a floor price?

MR. HARKNESS:

As I indicated to the Hon. gentlemen the other day in connection with soybeans, every group of producers naturally asks for a very high support price and the wheat producers through the Ontario wheat board did, of course, ask for a considerably higher price than the mandatory support price provided under the stabilization act.

As far as this price becoming a ceiling is concerned, I do not think that will be the case, and I certainly hope it will not. The Ontario wheat board, in addition to having this support price provided for them, have applied to us under the Agricultural Products Marketing Act for authority to collect an equalization fee, as it might be called, or to make a levy of up to 9 cents per bushel to provide them with working capital to be used for taking care of this crop, paying storage charges and looking after the general handling of it. Their object, and I think that is what has been needed more than anything else, as far as the marketing of Ontario wheat is concerned, is to prevent all this wheat coming on the market in the fall.

The hon. member for Essex East will perhaps remember that shortly after the harvest season last summer this wheat was down to \$1.12 per bushel. This present action provides an absolute floor of \$1.42 per bushel; and I think the Ontario wheat board, by the use of this 9 cents levy which we have authorized them to collect, will be able to handle the crop, to feed it out gradually during the year and, I hope, to secure a considerably higher price than the \$1.42. That, of course, is their objective.

MR. HAZEN ARGUE:

I think the statement of the Minister of Agriculture and the question of the hon. member for Essex East clearly demonstrate that floor prices under this legislation do not in any way meet the wishes of the producers themselves, for the very obvious reason that the prices are based on 80 per cent of the average price for the last 10 years, so that the floor price is relatively low.

MR. HARKNESS:

What is your question?

MR. ARGUE:

I think, Mr. Speaker, that this is a statement —

MR. SPEAKER:

In order to clear up exactly where we are, I take it that we have reverted to motions and the Minister of Agriculture made his statement under motions. It would therefore be in order for both opposition parties to comment upon it. I do not think it is in order to ask questions. I believe the practice has been to comment briefly on a statement made by a minister under the order of motions and to reserve questions until the orders of the day. Otherwise we tend to get into a debate, which is obviously not desirable at this stage of the proceedings.

MR. ARGUE:

I thank you for your comment, Mr. Speaker. If I made an error it was in failing to rise following the hon. member for Essex East. I was saying that the statement of the Minister of Agriculture indicates that these prices have not met the demands of the producers of eastern Canada. In view of your statement I will reserve my further comment until the orders of the day.

Vol. 102 — No. 31

THE BUDGET — Annual Financial Statement of the Minister of Finance

MR. G. W. BALDWIN:

Quite recently the government of Alberta established a royal commission known as the McGregor commission to inquire into the development of northern Alberta, which by the terms of reference was defined as being that part of Alberta lying to the north of the 55th parallel of north latitude. This commission has made a very extensive survey and I commend it to hon. members in so far as facts and statistics are concerned, though I must say I disagree very violently with some of the conclusions derived from these facts.

Vol. 102 — No. 32

THE BUDGET — Annual Financial Statement of the Minister of Finance

MR. HARRIS ROGERS:

Agriculture is the foundation of our country. Western Canada has the distinction of not only growing the highest quality wheat in the world but of being able to produce it at the lowest cost. On the other hand, the wheat growers find that they are dependent on the export market, and in that market they have to compete with countries where the growing of wheat is subsidized. Unfortunately the export market sets the domestic price as well. Today the wheat growers are selling wheat at away below the cost of production, and something certainly has to be done by way of deficiency payments.

MR. R. S. McLELLAN:

The Gordon commission closely ad-

hered to the negative philosophy of the government which sponsored it. It apparently had not the courage to question that philosophy and make the recommendations for rebuilding our provinces that should have been obvious to anyone. Instead of facing the problem, the commission finessed it. It hid behind the falsity that seems to have inspired thinking in regard to the east coast provinces since confederation, namely that we are poor because we lack natural resources and there is nothing that can be done about it: that we are doomed to marginal farming, fishing and logging and nothing can be done about it.

Vol. 102 — No. 49

SUPPLY —

HON. GORDON CHURCHILL (Minister of Trade and Commerce):

The most important feature of our trade at the present moment is the overall strength shown in our commodity exports

Some of the reasons for this good showing have been increased exports of wheat to overseas countries and uranium ore and beef cattle shipments to the United States.

Foreign trade is vital to Canada. One out of every five Canadians derives his livelihood from international trade, and Canadians in fact are more dependent on export trade than are the people of any other industrialized nation. Indeed, there can be no prosperity here without a high level of exports, nor can we enjoy continued development without expanding world opportunities for multi-lateral trade.

Today forest products lead and comprise about one third of our export trade. Next come minerals, metals and bulk chemicals, which account for close to two-fifths of our sales abroad, and then agricultural and fishery products which are one-fifth of our total exports. Our leading exports, ranking in order of importance, are as follows, and the values indicated are those for the year 1957: newsprint, \$715 million; wheat \$380 million; wood pulp, \$292 million; planks and boards, \$282 million; nickel and products, \$230 million; copper and products, \$169 million; iron ore, \$152 million; crude petroleum, \$141 million; fish and fish products, \$130 million.

Just for today I will be happy. This assumes to be true what Abraham Lincoln said, that "Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be."

* * *

An old Esperanto proverb states that the wise man thinks twice before not opening his mouth.

Farmers' Union of Alberta

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FREEDOM ON THE FARM

(Continued from Page 26)

not have excess money looking for a place to go, and agriculture would be left to the farmer.

Now is the time to consider the question while it still has not invaded our countryside seriously. If sometime in the next year or two an attractive young man comes along and offers a contract, drawing your attention strongly to the guarantee of a market and help that his firm will give you, at least look at the other side of the picture; go out before you sign and have a look at your broad acres, remember your complete independence; and be sure that you will still have these completely under your control after you have signed.

What is my concern with all this anyway? In the first place, a perfectly practical one. I am a consumer, and I live on a fixed income. I certainly don't want to see an extension of food monopolies. I don't want to see a planned scarcity and resultant high prices through all the field of food raised on farms. Further, I want to see our small towns thriving; these are people who operate the garages and groceries and hardware stores in town after town, and I want to see them continuing to prosper and receive their modest share of the business of the nation.

But above all I want to see the countryside in good health. I believe that that means family farms. I believe in the concept of the holy earth, that it is a sacred trust to us, given us by God for our sustenance, and that it is our duty to husband it. I have a photographic slide in my collection of a four-storey building sitting in the middle of a field in Ontario; I am told that it is a chicken house; the poultry sit in little wire cages and never come out; I'm told that the same sort of thing goes on in lofts in the heart of New York City. That isn't farming to me; I like to see a farmer with his family living in a roomy house in the middle of their land; more free than any other kind of worker, concerned to husband his fields and to keep them always in good condition; proud of the quality of his grain or his stock, an individual who feels that he is working with God to produce food for the children of God, not a contractor who is a janitor for stock belonging to a packing firm, or for chickens belonging to a poultry food company. There has always been a solemn dignity attached to the farmer because he worked so closely as God's partner; I hope that that will continue to be his primary attachment for many long years to come.

Until next week—God bless you and keep you.

Editor, Organized Farmer.

Sir: Here is an item we hope will be worthy of appearing in the FWUA Highlights.

Our August meeting took the form of a garden party at the home of Mrs. John Abell.

The program was a review of the activities of the UFA and FWUA of years gone by. This review disclosed a membership we thought all of you would like to hear about, and perhaps it will serve as an inspiration as the annual membership drive approaches.

Mrs. H. Robinson presented Mrs. Ray Wood with a corsage and a silver coffee spoon suitably engraved for "thirty-seven" years of continuous active membership in our Carstairs local.

How many locals can top that with such a membership? We do hope there are many.

Yours truly,
 Mrs. Harold Wenger Pres.,
 Carstairs FWUA Local #1006.

If you are conscious that you don't know everything you have taken a great stride toward knowledge.

* * *

Too many people in this age are continuing to search for a substitute for an honest day's work.

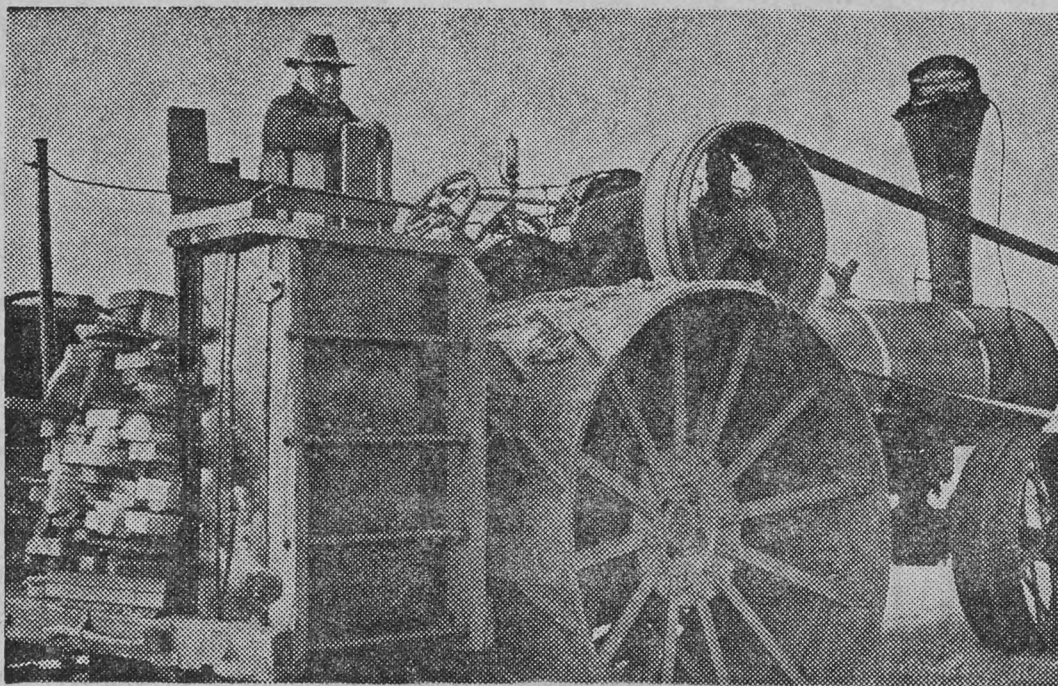


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LIST OF AGENTS ON PAGE 18

Time's Change



W. R. Mueller of Spirit River, Alberta Wheat Pool Director, steams up the engine he used from 1914 to 1922 to thresh much of the south Peace crops. In 1955 he drove it in the Spirit River Jubilee parade, and recently gave a day's oldtime threshing demonstration.

During the past 50 years vast changes have taken place in farm machinery and agricultural practices.

Similarly antiquated and costly grain marketing systems have given place to modern, efficient methods.

Speculation and exploitation have been replaced by the orderly marketing of the Canadian Wheat Board and the handling-at-cost of the farmers' own co-operative elevators.

Be thrifty! Be progressive! Deliver your forage seeds and grain to your own

